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ZUHAYR MUHSIN ASSASSINATION IN FRANCE REPORTED

PLO Statement on Attempt

JN251330 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1255 GMT 25 Jul 79 JN

[Text] Today at noon the PLO issued the following statement: During the return of brother Zuhayr Muhsin, PLO Executive Committee member and head of the PLO Military Department, from the African summit conference in Monrovia--where he headed a Palestinian delegation--and while he was passing through the French city of Nice enroute to Beirut, the terrorist group of the office of the Zionist prime minister, terrorist Menahem Begin, pursued him and opened fire on him about midnight last night. As a result of this, brother Zuhayr Muhsin was seriously wounded in the head, after which he was taken to a hospital where doctors are trying to save his life.

The PLO regards this incident as a continuation of the annihilation campaign unleashed by Begin's terrorist government against the Palestinian revolution and its leaders and against the Palestinian people and their revolutionaries. The PLO would like to point out that Israeli intelligence has been preparing for such terrorist acts for a long time resulting from the implementation of the U.S.-Isreal decision to pursue the PLO, its leaders and cadres, and the Palestinian people and their revolutionaries. Therefore the PLO, which has always warned against Israeli terrorist acts, led by terrorist Menahem Begin, asserts that the criminals will not escape punishment.

The PLO Executive Committee, while feeling pain and deep sorrow due to the incident, implores God to save the life of brother Zuhayr Muhsin so that he may return to exercise his militant tasks. The PLO Executive Committee also draws world public attention to this new wave of Zionist terrorism, which is led by terrorist Menahem Begin. Our revolution will continue until victory is achieved.

As-Sa'iqah Statement on Attempt

JN252055 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 25 Jul 79 JN

["Text" of statement issued on 25 July by the General Command of the Popular Liberation War Vanguards organization--the As-Sa'iqah Forces]

[Text] The parties to the imperialist-Zionist-As-Sadat plot are continuing their attempts to carry out the scheme of crushing the Palestinian revolution and liquidating our Palestinian Arab people's cause. This scheme was the object of detailed discussion between As-Sadat and Begin in the recent Alexandria meeting, just as it was the object of discussion and understanding at the Camp David negotiations.

As part of the practical move by the Camp David parties to implement this scheme, there resulted the escalation of aggression in southern Lebanon in the past few days and the mean and treacherous attempt to assassinate Comrade Zuhayr Muhsin, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command member, PLO Executive Committee member and Secretary General of our organization--the organization of the Popular Liberation War Vanguards--the As-Sa'iqah forces. This criminal attempt took place at 0100 today, 25 July, 1979 in France during the return of our struggler comrade from his mission of leading the PLO delegation to the Monrovia African summit conference.

Feeling greatly distressed by the incident, we affirm to the treasonous alliance of Camp David that their criminal acts will only make us more determined to continue our struggle to topple their treasonous line.

We also affirm that punishment will befall everyone who was involved in the attempt to assassinate our leader. If the Zionist criminal gangs have managed through this attempt to strike at our heart, our determination to chase these gangs will be confirmed in the near future.

The Zionist scheme to annihilate the Palestinian revolution and its leaders required that we all take a serious stand to confront it. If the tools of the Camp David alliance were able to harm a Palestinian leader known by the Palestinian revolution to be one of its vanguards, we affrim that we have prepared for all this. While wishing safety to our leader so that he will return to continue the struggle, we assure the Camp David alliance that our hand will reach them whereever they may be.

INA Reports Muhsin Dead

JN251959 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1938 GMT 25 Jul 79 JN

[Text] Paris, 25 July--This evening Zuhayr Muhsin, PLO Executive Committee member, died of wounds. Today a medical bulletin issued by the hospital to which Muhsin was admitted at dawn in the French city of Nice, following a shot by an unknown person which penetrated Muhsin's head, said that the Palestinian official died at about 1700 after the failure of all attempts to save his life. [Baghdad INA in Arabic at 1415 GMT on 26 July, in an item datelined Paris, says: "Zuhayr Muhsin, head of the PLO Military Department, died of wounds a short while ago. This was declared by French sources to INA."]

Emergency PLO Meeting Held

JN260612 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 26 Jul 79 JN

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee held an emergency meeting last night under brother Abu 'Ammar to discuss the Assassination attempt against brother Zuhayr Muhsin, PLO Executive Committee member and head of the PLO Military Department. The PLO Executive Committee also discussed the annihilation campaign unleashed by the Zionist enemy command against the Palestinian people, the Palestinian leaders and the revolution's cadres and fighters in implementation of the imperialist-Zionist design.

PLO Delegation Investigates Assassination

JN260609 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 26 Jul 79 JN

[Text] The investigation delegation formed by brothers Abu 'Ammar to follow up the incident involving the criminal attempted assassination of brother Zhuayr Muhsin, PLO Executive Committee member and head of the PLO Military Department, arrived in Paris yesterday. The delegation is made up of brothers Abu az-Za'im, Majid Muhsin, Muhammad Daghman, and Abu as-Sa'ud.

PALESTINIANS CLAIM RESPONSIBILITY FOR BEIT LID OPERATION

JN251353 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1115 GMT 25 Jul 79 JN

[Text] At dawn today, a special group of our fighters placed a highly explosive time bomb inside an Israeli Army military transport station at the Beit Lid crossroads near Netanya north of Tel Aviv.

The bomb went off at 0900 tnis morning when the station was crowded with enemy soldiers and officers. The explosion killed and wounded no less than 10 enemy personnel, damaged a large section of the station and a military vehicle that was parked there.

In its noon Hebrew broadcast, the enemy confirmed the operation, saying that nine injured persons were taken to hospitals in Kfar Sava and Hadera.

AL-FAHUM TO DISCUSS YUGOSLAV MEDIATION BETWEEN U.S., PLO

LD251349 Riyadh AR-RIYAD in Arabic 23 Jul 79 p 1 LD

[Samir Sa'd ad-Din report]

[Excerpt] Beirut--Sources close to the Palestinian resistance have said that Palestinian National Council [PNC] Chairman Khalid al-Fahum, who is currently visiting Yugoslavia, will discuss with President Josip Tito the possibility of the Yugoslav president mediating between the United States and the PLO, particularly regarding the U.S. recognition of the organization and the amendment of Resolution 242.

These sources said that Al-Fahum will tell the Yugoslav president, as PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat told U.S. senators who met with him previously, that Resolution 242 is unacceptable to the Palestinians since it was adopted in the absence of the Palestinian people in 1967 and looks upon the Palestinians as refugees with a humanitarian problem.

Therefore, for the PLO to accept the resolution it must be amended to include a clause on the "Palestinian people's right to self-determination."

ISLAMIC WORLD LEAGUE DEPLORES AFGHAN TREATMENT OF MUSLIMS

LD251025 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0945 GMT 25 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh--The secretary general of the Islamic World League, Shaykh Muhammad 'Ali al-Harkan, has expressed the league's grave concern at the condition of the Afghan Muslim people and the oppression and humiliation these people are subject to.

In a statement in today's AR-RIYADH, he said that the league's Constituent Assembly reviewed this issue at its recent session, and it condemned the suffering the Afghan people are experiencing at the hands of the ruling regime in Kabul, and also the Soviet forces supporting it.

The secretary general reviewed the methods of oppression and terrorism which the Muslims of Afghanistan, and in particular the ulema and majahidin, are experiencing. He added that more than 3,000 of these have been detained and are experiencing the most atrocious treatment; about 400 ulema and Muslims have been executed and more than 150,000 have been made homeless and are living on the borders and are being subjected to raids by Soviet aircraft.

Shaykh al-Harken called on Muslim governments and people to assist and support the cause of the Afghan people so that Afghanistan once more becomes a formidable bastion of Islam.

KUWAIT

FOREIGN MINISTER BRIEFS GULF COUNTRIES ON IRAN VISIT

JN251137 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1010 GMT 25 Jul 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 25 July--A Kuwaiti newspaper reports today that Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah has contacted Arab Gulf foreign ministers and informed them about the results of his recent visit to Iran. Quoting well-informed sources, the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-WATAN says that these contacts took place with Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Bahrain, Qatar, the UAE and Oman and are expected to be followed by meetings among Arab gulf high-ranking officials in order to lay down a collective cooperation formula between Arab Gulf countries and Iran. The paper does not exclude visits by the Kuwaiti foreign minister to other Gulf countries.

PAPER 'RIDICULES' U.S. PROTEST ON ISRAELI RAIDS IN LEBANON

LD251000 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0737 GMT 25 Jul 79 LD

[Text] AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM ridicules the recent U.S. protest against the Israeli air raids on southern Lebanon. This method, the paper writes, pleases the Arabs and does not disturb Israel; it seeks to buy the Arabs cheaply with words which they love to hear. The U.S. administration, the paper adds, has embarked on paying the Arabs lip-service and at the same time is supplying Israel with its requirements in arms, aid and means of [word indistinct] against the Arabs, so as to carry out aggression against them and to determine their fate. The paper says that the United States and Israel are partners in blackmail and in the exploitation of roles and stands.

PDRY

DEFENSE MINISTER RECEIVES HUNGARIAN MILITARY DELEGATION

LD251556 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 25 Jul 79 LD

[Text] The brother Col 'Ali Ahmad Nasir Antar, candidate member of the Political Bureau and minister of defense, has received a letter from General Lajos Czinege, Hungarian defense minister, on the development of relations between the armed forces of the two friendly countries. The letter was delivered this morning when Col 'Ali Ahmad Nasir Antar received the Hungarian military delegation currently visiting the country. The meeting was attended by the Hungarian charge d'affaires in Aden.

QATAR

OIL AUCTION REPORTEDLY SETS PRICE AT $37 PER BARREL

LD251151 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 23 Jul 79 p 1 LD

[Text] The petroleum affairs editor writes: Oil sources close to international oil companies have told AS-SIYASAH that they took part in an oil auction which the State of Qatar held a few days ago. The sources said that the quantity of the oil offered in the auction was around 3 million barrels, and that the State of Qatar has set $37 barrel as a minimum price for this quantity. The sources added that the prices offered by the companies at the auction were $34 to $35 per barrel, which exceeds by $11 the average price set by OPEC at its recent ministerial meeting.

ISRAELI FORCES WITHDRAW FROM SINAI AREA

NC251527 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 25 Jul 79 NC

[Text] The Israeli Forces today withdrew from a 2,410 square-mile area in Sinai in implementation of the second stage of the first withdrawal stipulated in the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

A celebration was held on this occasion during which the Israeli flag was lowered and the Egyptian flag was raised over the area. Token units from the Egyptian and Israeli Armies attended the celebration.

KHALIL, PERES MEET; HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE

NC251620 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1344 GMT 25 Jul 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 25 July--Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil received the leader of the Israeli opposition, Shim'on Peres, who is currently visiting Egypt. The meeting took place at noon at the prime minister's office.

At the conclusion of the 2-hour meeting, Dr Mustafa Khalil said he was happy with the discussions he held with Mr Peres because Mr Peres has experience and intelligence, and knows the facts.

Kr Khalil said that in spite of possible differences of opinion, I was happy to review various political subjects with Mr Peres in order to find a peaceful and overall solution to the Middle East problem.

A press conference was held after the meeting. Dr Mustafa Khalil began by saying: Gentlemen, I take this opportunity to thank Mr Peres for visiting our country and honoring me with a visit to my office.

We have held very fruitful and constructive talks on all current issues, as well as future issues. I tried to explain my views as clearly as possible, as did he.

I believe we held beneficial talks and we hope his visit to our country will not end but will continue.

I only wish to point out three things:

The first point is the opening of the borders between our countries. I can affirm that the opening of the borders will proceed according to the peace treaty clauses. Moshe Dayan, Butrus Ghali and I have reached agreement on this.

The opening of the borders has been delayed by Dr Butrus Ghali's absence--during his visit to Monrovia--and because Moshe Dayan has been ill for some time.

The second point is related to the negotiations. We are eager to attain tangible results concerning the Middle East conflict. I must stress once again that in the negotiations we are not really speaking on behalf of the Palestinians or playing their role. We are, however, trying to find the means, based on the principles of the Camp David agreements and the UN resolutions, to determine the method of elections and the establishment of the self-rule authority, together with the establishment of full autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in accordance with the Camp David agreements.

The third point which needs elucidation is related to the normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel. As I pointed out before, our policy on this is to adhere to both the letter and the spirit of our commitments. According to the peace treaty, negotiations on the normalization of relations are to take place 9 months after the treaty signing and within 6 months after the first phase of Israeli withdrawal. Naturally, we will continue to implement the measures in accordance with the contents of the Camp David agreements and the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

Shim'on Peres also spoke at the press conference, saying: I am very grateful to Dr Mustafa Khalil for the friendly, profound and extremely important talks we held concerning the fate of our region and our peoples.

I find a basis for much agreement between my own views and those of Dr Mustafa Khalil. I did not come here to negotiate but to learn the facts. I am convinced that the direction taken by the Egyptian people and its leadership in the Middle East is the only right direction which promises to achieve peace and progress for all people in the Middle East.

Peres added: I believe our peoples are interested not only in making the Camp David agreements a mere success, but in making a comprehensive agreement as well. We would like to cure all the ills of this conflict, and the point of departure for this aim has been very encouraging thanks to the Egyptian leadership.

My talks have given me the impression that there is a certain optimism concerning the prospects for the continuation of the negotiations in accordance with the Camp David agreements.

The other impression I gained from the talks is that if difficulties exist they are negotiable and are bound to be solved.

As for myself, I have been deeply touched and impressed by Egypt. I told Dr Mustafa Khalil that I picture Egypt mentally as the Mediterranean surrounded by benevolent hearts and overflowing with smiles.

I greatly hope that these contacts will continue in the future. I am also very grateful for this reception and sympathy. Thank you very much.

Peres then replied to questions by journalists. Asked his impressions about the Vienna talks among 'Arafat, Kreisky and Brandt, and whether he has held any contacts with Chancellor Kreisky about this, Peres said: Certainly, I was in touch with Kreisky. We met in Stockholm within the framework of the Socialist International. We agreed to disagree with regard to the PLO. I think Kreisky believes that through holding negotiations with the organization, it will change. [sentence as published] My view on this is that the PLO's structure does not allow for effecting a real change in its charter. As for the Palestinian issue, my view is that a Palestinian problem exists, and we must solve it. Through joint efforts, we can perhaps find a just and honorable solution for all the parties concerned.

In reply to a question on his proposals to (?encourage) the Palestinians to join the negotiations, Peres said: This depends on the decision of the people living in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Among them, there are many who are mature and intelligent.

Seriously speaking, I do not share the official view expressed by the government. I had strongly recommended that they try to establish autonomy as a first step in the right direction.

Replying to another question, Peres said: I believe that it is the PLO that is keeping itself away. Do not forget that the PLO is based on a charter which does not permit it to negotiate with Israel, but which calls for Israel's destruction. They have decided and declared that their organization is a mere tactic and not a strategy. I believe it is a strategy, but it will lead to nothing. This is no policy at all.

To another question on his impressions about the assassination in Cannes of Zuhayr Muhsin, leader of the As-Sai'qah organization, Peres said: I leave these complicated matters to Dr Mustafa Khalil.

The prime minister said: I always condemn terrorism in all its forms. I can never approve of any kind of terrorism against any person. There is no heroism in it at all. It is much better, as you know, for us to differ politically, and we can differ on numerous aspects. In a civilized manner we can find ways to overcome our disagreements, but not by killing each other.

Replying to another question, Peres said that the Israeli opposition had voted in favor of the Camp David agreements. We had often said that any commitment undertaken by the Israeli Government now would be binding on any future government. What I would like to say is that it does not matter at all (?what type) of government comes in the future. The commitment undertaken by Israel shall be completely respected by all future governments, including any government (?he) might head.

Asked if the Israelis have shown any signs of good will toward the Palestinians to spur them to join the negotiations, Peres said: I believe that such signs are a good thing, but I am afraid that if (?I) speak in general terms they will get nothing.

Asked about the role of the PLO in the discussions, since the European view is that the PLO should participate in them, Peres said: So far I have not seen any change from the PLO in the wake of the Vienna meeting. The European leaders actually believe that through negotiations with the PLO, it is possible that the PLO's methods will change. However, there is no evidence that such a thing will actually happen.

Asked about Israel's objection even to the acceptance of the PLO in the Socialist International, Peres said that the PLO does not follow a socialist path. It is neither democratic nor does it encourage peace. This is not our attitude alone; all the members of the Socialist International think that the PLO should not be accepted if it does not change its charter. What I believe can be expressed thus: Israel is prepared to talk seriously with the Palestinians, but if a certain organization adopts a charter and a strategy which actually make the holding of discussions impossible, then the organization is keeping itself away from such negotiations.

Asked if the way would be open to the PLO if it changed its charter, Peres said: I do not want to answer a theoretical question in a practical manner because that would give a false impression. You see that the As-Sa'iqah organization, for example, can carry out terrorist operations without even asking permission from the PLO. The As-Sa'iqah organization receives its orders from Syria, but it has no right to dictate orders to Syria. Therefore, we are dealing with a very complicated situation.

Mubarak Meets Peres

NC252232 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 25 Jul 79 NC

[Text] Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak made a statement to journalists following his meeting with Israeli Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres today.

Vice President Mubarak was asked if his optimism about the peace process is due to the position of the Israeli Government or is a result of his talks with Peres. He answered that this optimism springs from all the talks that have taken place since the peace process began, including his talks today with Peres.

Vice President Mubarak explained that optimism is not achieved in a single moment, but is an outcome of a series of talks and discussions. He said we are optimistic and President as-Sadat always expresses this optimism.

Ghali, Peres Meet

NC251641 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1605 GMT 25 Jul 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 25 July--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali held a 90-minute meeting this afternoon with Israeli opposition Labor Party leader Shim'on Peres.

MENA has learned that Dr Ghali emphasized to Peres during the meeting that the continuation of settlements in the occupied Arab territories--the West Bank and Gaza Strip--jeopardizes and obstructs the peace process.

Dr Ghali also told Peres during the meeting that Egypt presented a note on 13 October 1978 regarding the (?factor) of building the confidence of the Palestinian people and that so far Egypt has not received any response to or seen any implementation of what was contained in the note. Dr Ghali also pointed out to Peres the absolute support shown during the African summit conference held in Monrovia recently--absolute and sweeping African support for the right of self-determination for the Palestinian people and the unanimous support for this by the African community.

After the meeting, Dr Butrus Ghali stated that during his meeting with Peres, they held discussions that were characterized by complete frankness. He said that he explained to Peres the various obstacles being faced, whether in the process of normalizing relations between the two countries in implementation of the peace process or in the talks on full autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Dr Ghali described the discussions as having been completely useful and beneficial. [passage indistinct]

AS-SADAT RECEIVES CONGRATULATORY CABLE FROM TITO

NC251637 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1500 GMT 25 Jul 79 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 25 July--President Anwar as-Sadat has received congratulatory cables from kings and heads of state on the occasion of the 27th anniversary of the glorious 23 July revolution.

His excellency has received the following congratulatory cable from Yugoslavia's President Josip Broz Tito:

On the occasion of the national day of the Arab Republic of Egypt, the people of Yugoslavia join me in expressing to Your Excellency our warmest congratulations and best wishes for the prosperity and welfare of the friendly Egyptian people.

I am confident that our two nonalined countries, which have a deep-rooted belief in nonalined policies, will work to bolster our relations of friendship and cooperation for the benefit of our two peoples and in the interests of world peace and progress.

UN EMERGENCY FORCE COORDINATOR GEN SIILASVUO ARRIVES

NC251406 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1337 GMT 25 Jul 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 25 July--This afternoon, General Siilasvuo, chief coordinator of the UN Emergency Forces, arrived in Egypt on a visit lasting several days.

AL-AHRAM REPORTS RECALL OF SPECIAL ENVOY TO HAVANA

NC260730 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0652 GMT 26 Jul 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 26 July--Egypt has decided to recall Ambassador Ahmad Tawfiq Khalil, its special envoy to Havana and the under secretary of the Foreign Ministry, who had gone to Belgrade and was scheduled to fly later to Cuba to hold contacts with the Cuban Government in its capacity as the host of the nonalined conference.

In reporting this today, AL-AHRAM adds that Egypt has decided to recall Ambassador Ahmad Tawfiq Khalil after the conclusion of his successful discussions in Belgrade, because of statements that Cuba has issued which Egypt considers as harmful to the nonalined movement and its principles, as well as to the role Egypt has played in establishing and supporting this movement.

Further On Cuban Attitude

NC260915 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 26 Jul 79 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] Regarding the Havana government's attempt to issue statements that harm the nonalinement movement, AL-AHRAM editorially expresses the opinion that this plot against nonalinement contradicts the decision to select Havana as the venue for the major conference, which will bring together the nonalined leaders who established the bases and principles of this international movement. Egypt was one of the first countries that took part in establishing and supporting this movement, and in working for it until now.

The paper affirms that through such methods, the Havana government is seeking to widen the division in the nonalinement movement and side with the rejectionist states and their satellites in their attempt to harm Egypt after their maneuvers and tactics failed at the recent Monrovia conference, which praised Egypt's regaining of its lands and called for the need to restore all Arab lands and rights.

AL-AHRAM points out that it is most peculiar for Cuba to attempt to undermine and weaken Egypt's role in the movement because by doing so, it is ignoring the fact that Cuba and Egypt took part in the nonalined movement when Havana was faithful in its nonalinement--before it was swept away by the current of alinement that prompted it to become a tool for carrying out the interests of a specific group in a way that ruins nonalinement.

This is rejected by Egypt and the broad base of truly nonalined states, which will unite and struggle--not for the first time--to confront the current of alinement whatever its color, reasons, or sources may be.

The paper affirms that Egypt knows the path along which it is walking. Egypt is also profoundly aware of the reality of the plots that are aimed not at Egypt, but basically at ending a faithful and pure movement that has sought to make nonalinement a true slogan that conceals ambitions broader and deeper than those of the old colonialism, from which the Third World peoples, who found in nonalinement a refuge, support and a safe haven, have suffered.

AKHBAR AL-YAWM: ARABS COULD USE OIL TO SUPPORT PALESTINIANS

LD241355 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 21 Jul 79 p 8 LD

[Sa'id Sunbul article: "How Long Will Egypt Endure?"]

[Excerpts] The attitude of Arab leaders raises more than one question. These leaders call day and night for the solution of the Palestinian problem, for the return of Palestinians to their home and for the liberation of occupied lands.

No one disagrees with the Arab leaders' demands, but the question is: Are words, or threats of liberation, or demands for a Palestinian home enough?

The Arab leaders are content with words and offer no solutions.

All the Arab leaders have done since the peace agreement was signed in March is to attack Egypt and criticize its policy. Going beyond attacks, they sought to freeze Egypt out of membership of the Arab organizations and to cut off Arab economic aid to Egypt.

The Arabs would be wrong to imagine that their strength lies in their numbers or in the vast area in which they live. Israel has defeated them in several wars and taken their land, despite their numbers and the vast area of land in which they live.

The Arabs' real strength lies in the oil and the vast funds the Arab countries own in American banks. This is the Arabs' real strength, which enables them to influence decisions and even bring pressure to solve the Palestinian problem.

What have the Arabs done with this strength? Have they used it or tried through it to influence a solution to the Middle East crisis?

Obviously they have not used it, or even thought of using it. None of the Arabs is asking for the cutting off of oil supplies. Nobody is demanding the withdrawal of Arab funds from American and West European banks to deposit them in the Soviet Union, for example.

But sincere Arabs demand the use of this strength in contributing to the solutions of the Palestinian problem. Despite that demand, the Arab countries turn a deaf ear and refuse to discuss the subject.

In early October, following the Baghdad conference, Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil said that the conference resolutions to boycott Egypt, to fight it and to freeze its membership were futile. He said that the Arabs have various sources of strength they could use as a means of influence if they were sincere in desiring to solve the Palestinian problem.

The Arab attitude raises more than one question. Obviously the Arabs refuse to consider using their oil and money because they fear for their interests and their wealth. It is obvious too that they use the oil in their own interests and not the interests of the Palestinian problem.

Al-Qadhdhafi last month threatened to cut off oil supplies to the United States because it refused to sell him planes, but he absolutely never tried to use oil as a card to be played in the interest of the Palestinian cause.

What is more, some of the Arabs hasten to offer privileges and facilities without trying to benefit from such a situation. World oil output dropped following events in Iran and, as a result, citizens in the United States and Europe began suffering from a shortage of fuel, particularly gasoline. Recently OPEC decided to increase oil prices, and the Arab countries benefited as a result. Following this increase Saudi Arabia increased its oil production by 1 million barrels per day. This increase would solve the problem of shortage in the United States and Europe. Saudi Arabia should have benefited from this decision; that is, politically and not finacially, since the latter benefit is a foregone conclusion. Saudi Arabia should have exploited this decision in the interests of the Palestinian problem, but all evidence indicates that nothing of the sort has happened.

The Arabs are leaving Egypt to shoulder the burden alone and to negotiate the future of the Palestinians alone. None of them is trying to support it or to back its stand. Not only do they leave it alone, but they also hasten to stab it in the back with such meanness and cowardice.

The question is: How long will Egypt go on shouldering the bruden alone, while the Arabs are preoccupied with achieving their own interests under the false slogan of Palestine?

AL-AKHBAR: ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT RESULT OF PLO STRIFE

NC260825 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0640 GMT 26 Jul 79 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] Cairo, 26 July--AL-AKHBAR comments today on yesterday's attempt to assassinate Zuhayr Muhsin in Cannes, France. The paper attributes the attempt, planning and motives to the corruption sown by the Ba'thists and evil rulers among the Palestinian organizations so as to dominate them and use them in serving the Ba'thist purposes and objectives.

AL-AKHBAR points out that the attempt on the life of Zuhayr Muhsin is neither an isolated incident nor an independent crime, but part of a sweeping current of assassinations and crimes, which would end only when the reasons behind them are eliminated and the criminal hands manipulating them cut off, and only when the Palestinians become aware of themselves and understand the underlying intentions of the 'Alawite Ba'th in Syria, the Tikriti Ba'th in Iraq and the tampering fool in Libya. The paper draws attention to the fact that several organizations within the PLO serve the interests of Syria, Iraq and Libya and hire themselves out to the highest bidder.

In conclusion, the paper says that the Palestinians themselves are paying the price of this tragedy.

BAGHDAD ATH-THAWRAH CITES BREZHNEV MESSAGE TO SADDAM HUSAYN

LD251153 [Editorial Report LD] Baghdad ATH-THAWRAH in Arabic on 20 July 1979 carries on page 7 texts of congratulatory telegrams received by President Saddam Husayn from various Arab and foreign heads of state on the occasion of his election as chairman of the Revolution Command Council and becoming president of the republic. These include the following telegram from Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev: "Please accept our congratulations and heartfelt wishes on the occasion of your election as chairman of the Revolution Command Council and your assumption of the presidency of the Iraqi Republic. We express the hope that the present brotherly relations between the Soviet Union and the Iraqi Republic will develop in accordance with the treaty of friendship and cooperation in the service of our two countries and peoples in the interest of the struggle against imperialist and reactionary designs and for the sake of comprehensive security and peace."

SADDAM HUSAYN RECEIVES CONGRATULATIONS FROM CASTRO

JN251441 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1425 GMT 25 Jul 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 25 July--President Saddam Husayn has received new cables of congratulations from several heads of state, governments and personalities on his assumption of the post of Revolution Command Council chairman and president of the Iraqi Republic.

President Saddam Husayn received a cable from Cuban President Fidel Castro. The cable says: We would like to express our warm congratulations for the high responsibilities you have shouldered in leading the fraternal Iraqi Republic. We assert our confidence that our sincere bilateral relations will be further consolidated in the future. On this special occasion, we would like to affirm that we will work for expanding and consolidating the relations of cooperation linking our two countries for the sake of scoring a final victory against imperialism, Zionism and reaction. Please accept our high esteem and respects.

FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION MEETS SOVIET DEPUTY CULTURE MINISTER

JN241534 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1440 GMT 24 Jul 79 JN

[Text] Moscow, 24 July--The Iraqi friendship delegation, headed by Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, met here today with (Barbash), first deputy culture minister and head of the committee on solidarity with the Palestinian people. During the meeting the two sides discussed friendly Iraqi-Soviet relations.

Hammudi reviewed Iraq's stand and assertions concerning the establishment of bilateral relations based on mutual respect, equality and nonintervention in internal affairs.

The Soviet official praised the relations of friendship and cooperation between Iraq and the Soviet Union.

The Iraqi friendship delegation arrived in the Soviet capital the day before yesterday to attend Iraqi-Soviet friendship week.

AMMAN REPORTS KING HUSAYN'S INTERVIEW WITH GERMAN TV

JN251910 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 25 Jul 79 JN

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has stressed that the Palestinians' right to self-determination, sovereignty over their Palestinian soil and the return of the occupied city of Jerusalem cannot be a topic of haggling.

In an interview with German television in which he answered journalists' questions, his majesty called for including the PLO in any attempt to reach a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. He said that the Arabs do not accept the West Bank of the Jordan River, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights to be Israeli territory.

His majesty pointed out that the Camp David negotiations between Egypt and Israel, with U.S. participation, have not solved any of the real problem in the Middle East, but have complicated the overall situation. These negotiations, he said, changed the direction of the process which was paving the way for convening the Geneva conference.

His majesty emphasized the rejection of the self-rule plan and said: This plan--in the form proposed--entrenches the occupation and hampers the process of establishing peace. He added: In our opinion, emphasis should be given to laying down the bases of a comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East so that these bases are founded on Israel's total withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, the guaranteeing of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their right to determine their destiny and future over their territory and homeland, and the return of Arab Jerusalem to Arab sovereignty.

CUBAN DELEGATION HOLDS TALKS IN AMMAN

JN251554 Amman JNA in Arabic 1520 GMT 25 Jul 79 JN

[Text] Amman, 25 July--A meeting was held here today between the Jordanian side under Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hasan Ibrahim and the Cuban side under Vice President of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers Guillermo Garcia Frias.

The two sides discussed various aspects related to the sixth nonalined summit conference, which will be held in the Cuban capital from 3 to 7 September 1979. They also discussed the means to develop bilateral relations in the economic, diplomatic and cultural fields.

Ibrahim affirmed Jordan's eagerness to support the nonalined movement and its profound faith in its principles, manifested in Jordan's effective participation in all the nonalined conferences. Ibrahim also explained Jordan's constant stand toward the Middle East and Palestinian issues.

Garcia affirmed his country's support for the Arab stand toward the Middle East issue and full support of the Palestinian people's cause. He also expressed hope that the forthcoming nonalined summit conference would contribute to supporting the nonalined movement and achieving its goals. Garcia also expressed his country's desire to develop bilateral relations in various fields.

ARMY ENTERS SOME AREAS TO RESTORE CALM

NC251125 (Clandestine) Voice Of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1015 GMT 25 Jul 79 NC

[Text] The Lebanese army unit that arrived this morning in the Ad-Dawwar and Al-'Ayrun areas has been deployed along the dividing line at the entrance to Duhur ash-Shuwayr.

This step has been met with the citizens' general satisfaction, particularly because they have returned to their houses. Therefore, the citizens have fully welcomed and received the Lebanese regular unit. Later information indicates that the Al-'Ayrun-Duhur Ash-Shuwayr road has been reopened, and power and water services have been restored in the area. Furthermore, the Biskinta-Btighrin road has been reopened following a 3-month closure. This security step has been taken following contacts between the commands of the army and of the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] posted in Duhur Ash-Shuwayr.

AS-SA'IQAH, FATAH CLASH OVER ATTACK ON ZUHAYR MUHSIN

NC251314 (Clandestine) Voice Of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 25 Jul 79 NC

[Text] The armed men in Sabra and Shatila camps were alerted this morning following the report on the shooting of Zuhayr Muhsin in France. The As-Sa'iqah and Fatah organizations accused each other of committing the crime. As a result, an armed clash took place between the two organizations in al-Jinah during which a person named Muhammad Shihadah was killed.

In Tripoli, armed men opened fire on the car of the traffic commander in the city, Lt Samir Iliyah, who was seriously hit in the back. He was helicoptered to Beirut airport and then moved to the American University hospital for treatment.

BEIRUT RADIO REPORTS ISRAELI AGGRESSION, OVERFLIGHTS

NC251325 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Jul 79 NC

[Excerpt] There has been an escalation of tension today in the mid-south after Israeli forces and armed personnel from the border strip shelled 'Ayta az-Zutt, Bra'shit, and Haddathah around midnight. Flarebombs and phosphorescent bombs were also used. The UNIFIL returned the fire and the shelling stopped at 0400.

Persons arriving from Tibnin reported that armed personnel from the border strip supported by an Israeli force attempted to advance to the positions they had set up along the Bayt Yahun junction in the direction of 'Ayta az-Zutt, Bra'shit and Haddathah. However, the Irish patrols deployed in the hills and at roadblocks stopped their advance. The Irish contingent was reinforced by tanks and artillery.

This morning, Israeli planes overflew the south. At 1020, other alien warplanes flew at low altitude over Sidon and broke the sound barrier. They were intercepted by ground resistance--forcing them to gain altitude and head toward the sea.

BA'TH COMMAND EXPRESSES 'CONCERN' OVER ATTEMPT ON MUHSIN

JN251431 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 25 Jul 79 JN

[Text] Damascus--A responsible source in the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's National Command delivered the following statement: Comrade Zuhayr Muhsin, member of the party's National Command, As-Sa'iqah organization secretary, PLO Executive Committee member and head of the PLO military department was subjected to a heinous assassination attempt in France at dawn 25 July, 1979 while returning from the African summit conference in Monrovia. Mushin was taken to a hospital and the French authorities are investigating the incident. The party National Command is following with great concern any developments in Comrade Muhsin's physicial condition and the results of the investigation of the incident, which is directly related to Zionism and the Camp David pact.

TISHRIN COMMENTS ON U.S. DEFENSE SECRETARY'S 'THREATS'

JN260643 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 26 Jul 79 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on the threats by U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown, to occupy the oilfields in the Arab Gulf on the pretext of defending U.S. interests there, TISHRIN writes: The repetition of these threats in various forms and during a period of serious escalation of tension and a possible confrontation in the Middle East can only be interpreted as the outcome of studied plans for a specific objective.

Despite the presence of divergent views in the U.S. administration on most domestic and foreign issues and on the futility of one method or another and despite the existence of various opinions concerning the issue of military intervention in an area considered the most important and explosive spot in the world, one cannot forget that the crises which have befallen the United States have increased U.S. aggressiveness and viciousness and have tipped the scale in favor of those who advocate military intervention over those who oppose it.

TISHRIN asserts that the Arab reply to these threats must be on a level with their seriousness. Any statement from any part of the Arab homeland that the United States might change its position and policy would only be collusion, retreat and a deviation from the unified Arab stand that was adopted during the ninth Arab summit conference in Baghdad.

PLANNING MINISTER RETURNS FROM GREECE

JN252150 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 25 Jul 79 JN

[Text] This evening Minister of State for Planning Affairs Dr George Huraniyah returned to Damascus from Athens at the end of the meetings of the first session of the joint Syrian-Greek ministerial committee. While in Athens, Dr Huraniyah held talks with his Greek counterpart on bilateral cooperation. These talks led to the signing of an agreement in the scientific, technical, health, tourism and veterinary health fields. In addition, a bilateral trade protocol for 1979-80 and a general protocol on the meetings of the first session of the joint committee were signed. Dr Huranjyah also had meetings with the Greek prime minister and with the ministers of foreign affairs, communications and commerce.

ALGERIA

CUBAN VICE PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ MEETS ABDELGHANI

LD251500 Algiers APS in French 1100 GMT 25 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Algiers, 25 Jul--Abdelghani member of the Political Bureau and prime minister, received at the government palace yesterday Carlos Raphael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers of Cuba, who is paying a visit to Algeria within the framework of preparations for the Sixth Conference of Nonalined Countries next september in Havana.

Abdelghani and the Cuban vice president discussed the development of the nonalined movement. They also reviewed bilateral relations and expressed satisfaction at the prospects for development of Algerian-Cuban cooperation.

25 Jul Departure

LD251318 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 25 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Vice President of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers and President Castro's personal envoy Carlos Rafael Rodriguez left Algiers this morning at the end of his 2-day visit, during which he was received by President Chadli Bendjedid to whom he delivered a letter from President Castro. He also conducted talks with Mr Mohamed Benyahia, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister, on preparations for the Havana September nonalined conference.

The Cuban guest and delegation were seen off at the airport by Mr Benyahia and by a number of diplomats and senior Foreign Ministry officials.

SANDINIST DELEGATION ENDS VISIT 25 JUL

LD251202 Algiers APS in English 1016 GMT 25 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Algiers, 25 July (APS)--The delegation of the Sandinist Front for National Liberation (Nicaragua) left Algiers Tuesday after a few days' visit to Algeria. The Nicaraguan delegation had had talks with FLN Party leaders on the prevailing situation in Nicaragua after Somoza's defeat and the victory of the revolution.

LIBYA

TURKISH DEFENSE MINISTER AKMANDOR DEPARTS 25 JUL

LD260552 Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 25 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Neset Akmandor, Turkish defense minister, left Tripoli today after a visit of several days to the Jamahiriyah during which he had talks with Brig Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in Chief of the armed forces. He also met Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud and secretaries of the General People's Committee for Housing and Planning. He was seen off by Brig Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, a number of army officers and the ambassador of Turkey to the Jamahiriyah.

PORTUGUESE PEACE COUNCIL DELEGATION DEPARTS 24 JUL

LD242047 Tripoli JANA in English 1818 GMT 24 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, July 24 JANA, Mr.Gomes, head of the Portuguese Peace Council delegation, left Tripoli today after a three-day visit to the Jamahiriyah.

He was seen off at Tripoli International Airport by the representatives of the Permament Secretariat of the General People's Congress and a representative of the Protocol Department at the Foreign Secretariat.

MAURITANIA

GOVERNMENT WANTS OAU SAHARAN PLANS IMPLEMENTED SOON

LD251206 Algiers AFP in English 1009 GMT 25 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Nouakchott, 25 Jul, APS--The Mauritanian Government wishes that the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) recommendations on Western Sahara be implemented soon.

In a press conference held here, Mauritanian Foreign Minister Ahmedou Ould Abdellah reaffirmed his country's position, i.e. "Recognition of the Saharan people's right to self determination, dialogue with the Polisario Front to find out ways and means of reaching self-determination, and resumption of relations with Algeria."

On the meeting with President Chadli Benjedid in the margin of the summit, the foreign minister said the "positive" talks could not but serve the Algerian-Mauritanian relations.

MOROCCO

KING HASSAN HOLDS TALKS WITH SOMALI PRESIDENT BARRE

LD251354 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 25 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Ifrane, July 25, (MAP)--King Hassan II of Morocco met with Somalian President Siad Barre, who arrived here Tuesday morning on an official visit to Morocco, part of a tour that led him to Nigeria and Algeria.

The meeting which lasted one hour was held in the presence of Omar Arish Ghalib, Somalian minister at the presidency, Dr Mohamed Ali Nour, head of the Health Department of the Somalian Revolutionary Socialist Party, Mohamed Ouarsa Ali, Somalian ambassador to Rabat, Maata Bouabid, Moroccan premier and justice minister, and M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccan foreign affairs and cooperation minister.

Departure Statement

LD251352 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 25 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Maj Gen Mohamed Siad Barre, president of the Somali Democratic Republic, and the important delegation accompanying him, this morning left Fes at the end of their visit to Morocco distinguished by the talks yesterday in Ifrane with King Hassan.

At the airport the Somali president made a statement to our correspondent, discussing the nature of his visit to Morocco and the subjects discussed with the king. He said his visit was cordial and practical. During the visit subjects connected with the strengthening of bilateral fraternal relations between Morocco and Somalia, the Arab world, the affairs of Africa and international issues were dealt with.

President Mohamed Siad Barre took this opportunity to express his profound appreication to the king and to his government and the noble Moroccan people for their affection and kind welcome, hoping that the meeting will be renewed in Somalia.

The Somali president was seen off at Fes Airport by M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state in charge of foreign and cooperation affairs, Mohamed Nasser, minister of transporation, and the general secretary of Fes Province and a member of the Ministry of Royal Palaces, Portocol and Medals and a number of other personalities.

WESTERN SAHARA

DEFENSE MINISTRY ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON FIGHTING

LD251528 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 25 Jul 79 LD

[Text] The Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR] Defense Ministry has released a communique on the attack which the Saraharan Liberation Army launched on 19 July against the royalist forces in Samara.

The communique says that the Saharon Liberation Army, as part of the Boumediene offensive, inflicted heavy losses on the enemy, which constitutes a new victory for the national liberation struggle of the Saharan people. This new victory, the communique adds, has shown the ability of the Saharan people to fight for the liberation and independence of their country, and also shows that the occupation forces can no longer feel secure even in their fortifications from the blows of the Saharan Liberation Army, for this army has liberated the greater part of the occupied territory and is triumphantly continuing to increase the liberated regions such as Teferiti, Amgala [word indistinct] which have been liberated during the current year.

The communique says that the 19 July operation resulted in the death of 85 Moroccan soldiers, one lieutenant and eight soldiers were taken prisoner. Nine trucks, 11 heavy machineguns, 25 rifles, four guns, 25 wireless sets and big quantities of ammunition were seized. Large quantities of weapons were also destroyed. On the same day an enemy convoy was ambushed on its way from Bouirat; many vehicles were destroyed and five men killed.

22 Jul Attack

LD232351 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 23 Jul 79 LD

[Text] The Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR] Information Ministry issued a communique containing the results of the attack the Saharan fighters launched against the positions of the royalist Moroccan forces in Goulimine. The communique explains that after the victorious attacks of the Saharan People's Liberation Army against the forces of expansionist invasion in Smara, in the occupied Saharan Republic and at Foum el Hassane in southern Morocco, the gallant Saharan fighters, within the framework of the Houari Boumediene offensive, on 22 July attacked the Royalist Moroccan forces against whom they laid a close ambush at the village of (Laqnad Lakhai) in the Goulimine area of Morocco.

Quoting informed sources at the Saharan Defense Ministry, the Information Ministry communique adds that this 90-minute battle enabled the Saharan fighters to breach the positions of the invasion forces on whom they inflicted heavy losses in lives and equipment, as seen in the death of 120 royalist soldiers including two offices with the rank of 1st lieutenant and the wounding of 63 others, and the destruction of 10 trucks, 10 Land Rovers and 5 guns of various calibers. During the operation, the Saharan fighters also captured 20 royalist soldiers including a number of NCO's. The fighters also captured 5 Land Rovers, 1 truck, two 120-mm mortars, 2 machineguns, 40 rifles and a substantial quantity of military ammunition.

U.S. CRITICISM OF LEBANON ATTACKS REJECTED

TA251149 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 25 Jul 79 p 2 TA

[By military correspondent Ze'ev Schiff]

[Text] Israel will continue its offensive operations, including bombings, against the terrorist organizations in Lebanon in order to prevent sabotage acts in Israel and the formation of new terrorist groups. The IDF will hit terrorists organizing to carry out sabotage acts each and every time Israel receives information to this effect. This was announced yesterday by official Israeli sources in reaction to U.S. criticism of the last Israeli air raid in Lebanon which was aimed at terrorist targets.

The U.S. criticism, voiced by the State Department spokesman, was vehemently rejected. Defense of the State of Israel and its citizens and the means to be used to protect them will be decided upon only by Israel and not by someone who sits peacefully far away and sneaks foreign interests, questions of oil and so on into the issue. The official sources said it was strange to hear such criticism of the bombings from somebody who for years attacked targets in North Vietnam and Cambodia, although then the question was not one of protecting American lives from terrorists penetrating U.S. territory. In its recent criticism, the United States is guided by its wish to have Syria conquer all of Lebanon and to make the PLO join the negotiations on an arrangement in the Middle East.

It was further stated that results in the field prove that the bombing and other operations from the sea and on the ground have curbed the terrorists over the last few months. Perhaps innocent people get hurt in these operations. However, the number of terrorists being hurt is much larger. The terrorists are to be blamed for attacking civilians because they intentionally move into civilian areas. Even if civilians are not hurt, they still make claims to the contrary for the purpose of conducting propaganda against Israel.

SECOND PART OF SINAI RETURNED TO EGYPT 25 JUL

TA251411 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 25 Jul 79 TA

[Text] This afternoon, at Bi'r (Nasib) in Sinai, the second area being evacuated by Israel in the framework of the peace treaty was handed over to Egypt. At the ceremony the Egyptian representative read a message from Egyptian Defense Minister 'Ali that the return of the area stresses Israel's and Egypt's meticulous implementation of all commitments of the peace treaty. General 'Ali says that the Egyptian flag is now flying over Sinai and shows the whole world that the peace efforts contribute more than peace.

There are about 4,000 Bedouin living in the area handed over to Egypt and this evening they will celebrate the change of regime with a huge feast.

POSITION ON SINAI FORCES DETAILED FURTHER

TA251019 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 25 Jul 79 TA

[Text] The United States has not yet put forward any proposals acceptable to Israel concerning the forces which will replace the United Nations Emergency Force. Israel is adhering to its demand for an international force to replace this force. Here is our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer on the situation regarding this matter and on the contacts between Israel and the United States:

The UN force's mandate in Sinai has ended. Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan leaves this morning for a 2-day visit to Holland and the Americans have not yet put forward any proposal acceptable to Israel. The clarifications directed toward finding a compromise will continue for another few days. The Foreign Ministry says: In a letter which is an appendix to the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty and was sent to the heads of both countries, the U.S. President committed himself to establishing an international force which will replace the UN forces if they are expelled from Sinai. The United States must keep its commitment. This is the first test of the United States keeping its promises in connection with the peace treaty.

But the United States is not proposing the establishment of an international force. It is adhering to the proposal that a UN observers' force replace the emergency force. Israel is saying that the observers can be expelled because they are not subordinate to the Security Council but to the secretary general of the United Nations, and this was the case on the eve of the Six Day War when the force acting as a buffer between Israel and Egypt was subordinate to Secretary General U Thant who, of his own accord, acceded to the demand of then President of Egypt An-Nasir and removed the UN units from the area. Israel also claims that only a large force with authority will be able to supervise the future implementation of the peace agreement--supervision which will include checking the size of the forces in the various regions and so on.

The minister of defense rejects these claims and does not see any difference between a UN force and UN observers. Minister Weizman thinks that it will not be a tragedy if the United Nations completely withdraws from Sinai and leaves supervision over the agreement in the hands of Egypt and Israel.

Nevertheless, what are the possible solutions to the situation created from this morning with the ending of the UNEF mandate? The United States is proposing that the UN observers be subordinate to the Security Council. Their number will be increased and there will be no representatives from the United States or the Soviet Union in the observers' force. The present Israeli position is that the United States should try to establish an international force, as it guaranteed. From where will the troops of this force come? Last night a senior governmental source told me that the United States could send troops from the NATO force to the area. These troops would be welcomed by Israel. At any rate, the clarifications on this matter will continue for another few days and a solution does not appear to be close.

UN SPOKESMAN INTERVIEWED ON SINAI SUPERVISION, UNIFIL

TA251605 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 25 Jul 79 TA

[Excerpts] This is David Eppel with my colleague David Essing. This week's forum takes the form of an interview with a man in today's news. The man who will speak to us on behalf of the United Nations in this area is Hugo (Rorcher), spokesman for the United Nations. Well it is quite clear why we have brought you to the studio. UNEF is leaving Sinai. What is the situation today, at this hour, after the order from the secretary general to the force to disband?

[Answer] Well, the order to disband is not as dramatic as it sounds. There will be no disbandment. There will be an orderly evacuation of the 4,000 men who make up the force with all their equipment, their vehicles, their weapons and munitions. This will take some time.

[Eppel] Who is in charge of order in that area as of this hour? UNEF has been told to disband. Who is responsible?

[Answer] Well, that is one of the questions I cannot answer exactly because it is being worked out. Now, there is really no need for anybody to be in control of the area because, after all, Egypt and Israel are at peace. In fact the Sinai region has been the most peaceful region in the world for years and I am glad to say that the United Nations Emergency Force has done its honorable share of the duty of keeping peace in the area.

[Essing] I would like to ask you about the role that UNIFIL is playing, or not playing, in southern Lebanon. This morning, before leaving for Holland, Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan even said that UNIFIL is now playing the role of an umbrella for the PLO terrorists, that he was promised by Secretary General Kurt Waldheim that there would be no armed terrorists in the area, that this is not so. On top of this we have even had UNIFIL troops smuggling for the terrorists. What is your reaction to all of this?

[Answer] Well, the role of UNIFIL, as you know, is very difficult. The position is exactly the contrary as in the case of UNEF and, let us not forget UNEF in the Golan which is also a very successful operation. UNIFIL is a completely different case. Now, the mandate of UNIFIL, as you know, first of all is to supervise or control the withdrawal of the Israeli Army; second, it was to help keep the peace in the area; and third, to assist the Government of Lebanon in restoring its authority in the area. Now this means that the force is there at the request of the Government of Lebanon to perform certain duties for the benefit of Lebanon. The promise to keep the area free of terrorists must be interpreted in the general context of the peace-keeping function. UNIFIL does stop, does prevent infiltration by armed elements whether they are Palestinians or Lebanese leftists or rightists or any others. That is the job of UNIFIL and it is performing it at the cost of many casualties.

[Essing] But Mr (Rorcher), I would like to interrupt you because there have been reports, and verified reports, that this is not entirely so, that in fact UNIFIL troops are often the victims of the terrorists and that this isn't even reported to the United Nations or if it is reported to the United Nations in New York it is not made public afterwards.

[Answer] Well, it is made public by regular press releases from us. Unfortunately those press releases are not always used, but UNIFIL issues regular statements and press releases about every incident that happens in this area.

[Essing] About being disarmed by the terrorists? About having their jeeps taken over by the terrorists?

[Answer] Yes, yes. In fact, there is a weekly summary of events where every incident is recorded. Regarding those hijackings I must say that they are of course very regrettable. There have been very strong complaints from the force to the PLO and it is one of the facts that makes life for UNIFIL so difficult.

[Essing] Mr (Rorcher), finally, what is your reaction to Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan's accusation of this morning that UNIFIL is in fact serving as some form of umbrella organization?

[Answer] Well, I have not seen that statement. I will convey it to New York. It would not be for me to make a statement answering a foreign minister.

That would be for the secretary general. I must say, however, that similar accusations but of a reverse side are levelled against UNIFIL from the other side. UNIFIL is accused in Lebanon of being an umbrella for the Christian militias and protecting them.

[Eppel] So what in fact you are saying is that you are in the midst of all this. The Israelis are accusing you of being an umbrella organization, the terrorists are, the militias are, the Lebanese are. So in point of fact you are caught in the crossroads of all these accusations. This is what you are saying.

[Answer] I am saying that UNIFIL has a very difficult job, that it is harrassed from all sides, and that it has suffered very grievously from this. You can just look at the number of casualities. It is, however, trying to do its duty and doing it much better than people think.

MA'ARIV CALLS FOR REACTION TO WALDHEIM'S ACTS

TA251241 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 25 Jul 79 p 5 TA

[Editorial: "Facts in the Field"]

[Text] The UN Emergency Force in the Sinai somewhat resembles an IOU: It is not necessary between honest people and it is not effective between crooks. This is apparently the reason why both sides--Israel and Egypt--are not getting excited over the fact that the mandate of the force operating in the Sinai has expired.

If there is any room for excitement then it should be only in the political sphere and not in the sphere of security. The United States presented Israel with a fait accompli when, jointly with the Soviets, it decided to replace the Emergency Force with UN observers. UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim decided to follow suit: In spite of Israel's opposition--as expressed in Sunday's Cabinet decision not to accept the U.S.-Soviet compromise and to reject any diversion from the Camp David accords--this morning Waldheim put into operation a unit of 114 observers. This method of creating facts without consulting one of the two main partners in the peace treaty harms Israel's status to certain extent. Any stationing of UN observers in any buffer zone in the world requires, in principle, the agreement of both sides. However, here the observers are operating despite Israel's declared objection.

Obviously, the question is one of principles and not of practice. A bunch of observers who must supervise large territories is faced with an impossible mission and its usefulness is almost nil. The mutual trust between Israel and Egypt, as has been developing since the first stages of the implementation of the peace treaty, carries more weight than a small group of supervisory officers who have never been known for their keen eyesight.

However, Waldheim's attempt to act as the head of an international government which can impose its will on a sovereign state and present it with faits accompli calls for a reaction. We hope the Israeli Government finds a way to demonstrate its objection to unilateral acts by whichever side.

FURTHER DETAILS OF DAYAN DEPARTURE STATEMENT REPORTED

TA251225 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 25 Jul 79 TA

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan left for Holland this morning and he said upon his departure at Ben-Gurion Airport that the peace agreement should be honored as it is written.

The United States, Dayan said, failed in the Security Council in its attempt to authorize the extension of the UN Emergency Force in Sinai, but it is not saying so specifically. Our correspondent Dan Eshel heard the minister's remarks:

[Eshel] Israel's opposition to stationing observers in Sinai springs from the fact that Israel wants to guarantee that the peace agreement is honored fully, Moshe Dayan said. This is not true of the Americans.

[Dayan--begin recording] The Americans are not saying that what they are proposing is a correct fulfilment of what is written in the agreement. What they are saying is that they are proposing a substitute because the Soviets would have used their veto and because they cannot get the Security Council to pass what is stipulated in the agreement. So, the first question is put to ourselves and, really, it is a very saddening one. Some of the papers gave enthusiastic support to the position of the United States, which is proposing to violate the agreement, from the U.S. viewpoint, from the first day. Why should we give it such support? The second question is whether we have to try to be scrupulous about the fulfilment of the agreement or whether we should say: The main thing is the strength of the IDF and whether there are observers is not important. With such an approach--if it exists--the agreement can be thrown into the garbage can. But if this is not the approach, then is it really so strange and such a surprise for a country such as Israel with the experience it has on all these issues and when it is demanded to do no less than to hand over the whole of Sinai, remove the settlements and rely on something which will remain within its sphere--in addition to the strength of the IDF--to say and to insist: Gentlemen, Americans, please fulfil the agreement, you and the Egyptians and us. [end recording]

[Eshel] Were the Americans to say something specific, then, Dayan said, it would be possible to discuss this.

[Dayan--begin recording] If the Americans come and say: We are very sorry, we cannot fulfil what we took upon ourselves--and this is how the situation appears to me, more or less--and so we are proposing substitutes or making other proposals, then Israel will say it recognizes the fact that there are things that even a superpower such as the United States takes upon itself and afterward cannot live up to. If it wants to enter into deliberations on this matter, I assume that Israel will enter into deliberations and listen to these proposals. But Israel will not, in my opinion, propose throwing the agreement into the garbage can or accept substitutes which do not answer the security needs as the Government of Israel sees them. There may be differing views in the government, but what the government decides it regards as a condition, it must be the condition. [end recording]

DAYAN'S RECEPTION, PLANNED DISCUSSIONS IN HOLLAND REPORTED

TA260715 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 26 Jul 79 TA

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan will begin the political part of his visit to Holland in a few hours. He arrived there yesterday. Dayan will meet with his Dutch counterpart at the Foreign Ministry in the Hague. Our correspondent Tzvi Lidar reports from the Hague:

[Lidar--begin recording] Somewhat cold, reserved but still friendly--this describes the official Dutch welcome of Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan.

A few weeks ago, Dutch Foreign Minister van der Klaauw supported the position adopted by the foreign minister, of the nine European countries which condemned Israel's settlement policy. This position, which to a certain extent burdened the relations between the two countries--will be the main issue of the lengthy discussions scheduled for Moshe Dayan and his South African counterpart.

Moshe Dayan will explain Israel's policy and will ask the Netherlands to continue its political support of Israel and to use its influence to moderate the anti-Israeli position of the other nine European countries.

Another important issue: The UN force in southern Lebanon--UNIFIL--also contains Dutch soldiers. Differences of opinion between the two countries have arisen in regard to this issue since the force was first stationed in the area. In order to overcome the differences and reach real agreements, Dayan took with him a senior officer who will attend the talks in which the head of the Dutch infantry force will also participate.

Dayan arrived here yesterday afternoon and, in what was described by Israeli spokesmen as a pleasant meeting, held talks with First Deputy Prime Minister Hans Wiegel. The prime minister himself--like most of the Dutch people--is on vacation.

In the evening, Dayan met with the heads of the Jewish community and answered their questions, particularly those on Israel's policy.

Today is entirely devoted to political talks. Tomorrow there will be a news conference. Afterwards Dayan will return to Israel. [end recording]

AUTONOMY TEAM MEETS TO PREPARE GUIDELINES FOR TALKS

TA251635 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 25 Jul 79 TA

[Text] The ministerial team for the autonomy negotiations is now meeting to prepare guidelines for the talks to take place next week in Alexandria. These talks will be devoted to discussing the system of elections for the institutions of the self-administration and their authorities.

It has been learned that Minister Sharon has decided to back down from his demand to participate in the talks. Therefore, the delegation in Alexandria will be headed by the director general of the Interior Ministry and he will be joined by the director general of the Ministry of Justice and the foreign minister's legal adviser.

ENERGY MINISTER MODA'I COMMENTS ON ENERGY ISSUES

TA201503 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 20 Jul 79 pp 6, 27 Weekly Supplement TA

[Interview with Energy and Infrastructure Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i by Dov 'Atzmon--date, place not given]

[Excerpts] Last Monday, Energy Minister Yizhaq Moda'i woke up at 0300 and listened to President Carter's dramatic broadcast on the oil crisis. He heard the president say that "our neck is stretched over the fence and OPEC has the knife."

Here We did go through a nervous week due to expected price rises--which came to be--but no speech was made to the nation.

[Question] Is our predicament better? Late one night Mr Moda'i was relaxing in an armchair, lighting another fat cigar--one of many that he chain smokes--and answered with a sigh:

[Answer] "Our predicament is certainly many times worse than that of the United States. In fact, I know of no other state in the world whose predicament is as bad as Israel's with respect to energy. We are totally dependent on imports. Forget about what we are extracting in the Sinai because on 26 November we will be returning the 'Alma field to Egypt. Furthermore, it should be stressed that our whole energy structure today is based on only one kind of fuel--liquid oil--and it is concerning this type of fuel that we have the greatest crisis. The OPEC countries and the "seven sisters," the large oil companies, control most current sources of liquid oil, and any direct link from us to them is totally blocked.

"There are other countries which are very dependent on imported energy such as Japan, which imports 90 percent of its needs, and New Zealand, which imports 95 percent, but the world oil market is open to them and they have alternatives. There are also other energy sources such as coal, gas or uranium where the situation is not so serious, but we are totally dependent on liquid oil."

[Question] So why are the Americans so excited while we are calm?

[Answer] In the United States the energy problem has created an economic crisis and social tension of great and far-reaching proportions, almost to thepoint of domestic disquiet. With us the situation is so bad that one can't feel the danger. It is sufficient if I say that this year we will spend $1.5 billion on purchasing oil compared with less than $800 million last year. Here we only fear availability, the consistency of supply. As if the economic aspect is not important. We forget the destructive influence of such an expense on the balance of payments.

[Question] So why do you, as energy minister, sit quietly?

[Answer] This is an issue which it is not always worthwhile to shout about. But it is true that up to today both the private citizen and the government have not dwelt on the severity of the situation. There is one person in the government shouting and warning that things will be bad, but for the time being everything is flowing. Stocks are covered. So it costs a little more. As for steady supplies and timing, we have some fears. However we have persuaded ourselves that the Americans have guaranteed that they will look after us. There are absolutely no certainties about this. Herein lies the absurdity of Israel feeling psychologically better than the United States.

[Question] One of the main clauses in President Carter's plan dealt with cutting back energy consumption to the 1977 level. Do you believe that this is possible for us as well?

[Answer] Certainly, our goal is to save 5 percent. This means stopping the rise in consumption--and we will do this without a doubt. It is only a question of time. The longer we delay implementation the more painful it will be. What can you do? Sometimes wisdom involves suffering.

[Question] How does one purchase oil on the open market?

[Answer] Oil that does not come from open sources travels around.

These travels from place to place and from hand to hand increase its price and create problems. We must carry this burden in order to hide the source. The Arabs certainly assume that their oil also reaches us--as do the Russians--despite the producers' trying to maintain a followup on their oil to its final destination. I can only tell you that what we are doing today is reminiscent of the smuggling and procurement campaigns which we conducted years ago. We are lucky that there is turmoil in the international market and this serves as a smokescreen for us. For the time being, we are holding on.

[Question] What are prospects for the future?

[Answer] In the past weeks I had the chance of discussing the issue with Senator Henry Jackson the chairman of the U.S. Senate's energy committee, and with Dr Henry Kissinger. They informed us of administration considerations in the past and in the present and this facilitates the understanding of international developments. It is clear that we will be affected by them more severely than any other country. In a calm market it is easier for us to get what we need than in a tense market. We must follow events very vigilantly. We are not only talking about logistic decisions of far-reaching significance, but of commercial decisions.

We are getting important information on this issue from friends in the c world, many of whom are Jews. Up to Carter's speech this week I expected a dec e which would not be stopped by economic or commercial means. The only element that remained open was when a balance would arise between the degree of difficulty and suffering and the willingness to use other measures to remove the difficulty. Until this week I expected the decline to continue for another 2 or 3 years, then leaving the industrialized world without alternatives.

[Question] Do you mean military intervention?

[Answer] Of course, even today I am not sure of the administration's ability to implement Carter's important and far-reaching plan. It is hard to see how the United States is going to stand up to the blackmail of the oil producers' cartel. Dr Kissinger repeatedly stressed last month in Jerusalem that, after the Vietnam trauma, military intervention would require both physical and psychological pressure. However, Dr Kissinger did not reject this possibility. It is a fact that Washington is building a mission force of 110,000 men to act quickly in areas causing distress for the United States.

[Question] How long is the State of Israel assured a supply of oil?

[Answer] I can only talk about routine consumption which amounts to about 8 million tons a year, apart from the permanent strategic stock which is carefully maintained at the levels determined by the government. There is no concern about this year. We have firm contracts in hand. One cannot talk about prices and about next year. I hope that we will continue to receive oil from Mexico, that we buy certain amounts on the free market and that from 26 November the Egyptians will supply us with oil from the 'Alma field.

[Question] How much is the 'Alma field producing today?

[Answer] On an annual basis we will get 1.5 million tons in 1979. According to the present rate of production we can reach 2 million tons and were th field to remain in our hands the day would not be far off when we would produce all our needs and even begin exporting.

[Question] What have the Egyptians promised us?

[Answer] According to the agreement with them we will continue to get oil from the 'Alma field and we will pay market prices.

[Question] And does this arrangement calm you?

[Answer] The truth? It raises many questions. What is the market price? OPEC, the spot? This is flexible. We can learn what to expect from the fact that immediately after the agreement with us, a month ago, the Egyptians suddenly and in one jump raised the price of their oil from $18.50 to $32.50 a barrel. There is also the question of quantity. According to the agreement they will sell us what they produce at 'Alma. What happens if they cut back production as some of the OPEC countries are doing? I do not know.

[Question] How much is the field that we are returning to the Egyptians worth?

[Answer] The Neptune Company, which holds the license for 'Alma, maintains that we have lost $2 billion. However, according to seismological tests it is clear that three or four other fields could be developed around 'Alma so the total loss amounts to tens of billions of dollars. And I am saying this with a lot of pain. On the other hand, if there is to be a normalization between the two countries, there is no logical or commercial reason for us not to get larger amounts of oil from Egypt. We are a client to whom it is worth selling oil because of the suitability of the oil being produced there, the geographical proximity, the existence of pipelines and so forth. Therefore, one should maintain a balanced picture.

SUPREME COURT REJECTS APPEAL AGAINST MATITYAHU SETTLEMENT

TA250952 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 25 Jul 79 TA

[Text] The Supreme Court today rejected the appeal against the establishment of the Matityahu settlement in the Modi' in area beyond the green line and cancelled the interim order banning construction of the settlement. The court announced that it would publish its reasoning in regard to this decision at a later date. It committed the owners of the lands seized for the settlement to pay the costs of discussing the appeal--2,000 Israeli pounds.

Our correspondent Moshe Negbi points out that during the debate Judge Me'ir Shamgar expressed surprise at remarks made by Reserves Maj Gen Mati Peled in his affidavit. Judge Shamgar pointed out that anyone who has known the IDF for 30 years knows that the view of area defense applies not only to areas close to the border, as Maj Gen Peled claimed, but also to the entire country. State Attorney Gavri'el Bach agreed that the court should study Mati Peled's affidavit because, in any case, it had already been publicized by the communications media. However, Mr Bach repeated his claim in principle that the fact that there are differing security views does not negate the IDF's security view today. He pointed out that he had brought Peled's affidavit to the knowledge of Maj Gen Dani Mat, but the latter had not been impressed by it.

Mr. Bach complained that Mati Peled's affidavit had been written in an arrogant style as though any different opinion was impossible. Mr Bach pointed out that while political motives were being attributed to army personnel, it appeared that the political motive was the dominant one only in regard to Major General Peled.

DAVAR: WEST BANK SOCIAL ACTIVITY CONCEALS NATIONALISM

TA251548 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 25 Jul 79 p 5 TA

[Danny Rubinstein article: "Inhabitants of Territories Ridicule 'Gestures'"]

[Text] "The first Palestinian convention on social affairs" lasted 3 days and ended at the beginning of this week at the Arab women's union house in East Jerusalem. The convention discussed issues of welfare and education, problems of the Arab family, emigration from the territories and so on. The debates at the convention were on a professional level. However, the dark shadow of the political situation hovered over them. When education was discussed, the speakers emphasized the importance of education in advancing a Palestinian nationalist movement. When the issue was Arab emigration from the territories, it was treated as a danger threatening to destroy the Arab hold in the West Bank and Gaza (in the same tone as we Israelis speak of emigration). So that the general framework of the debates would be clear, decisions were adopted on holding debates on "the Palestinian right to an independent state on the motherland's territory under PLO leadership," "opposition to the autonomy," "opposition to the attempts to obliterate Arab identity in the territories and in Jerusalem," and so on.

The ceremonial parts of the convention included standing at attention in memory of "the holy martyrs." Students chanted songs on "the bullets building freedom," on war, struggle and revolution until liberty is reached. Shaykh ('Akhrama Sabri), (whose appearances are the most radical ones I have seen in the territories) spoke about Jerusalem: "Without you it is surrender, without you it is treason." Children wearing red-checkered shawls (a la 'Arafat) presented a play on Israeli occupation. Two boys wearing khaki uniforms, such as those worn by IDF soldiers, also took part in the play and said to each other: Look, they do not want to surrender. They only want independence. Let us offer them autonomy. The audience burst out laughing.

The organizers of the convention for social affairs were those pro-Jordanian circles in the West Bank which were described as "moderate" in Israel. The convention's official publication thanked the Arab women's union and the executive of the Jordanian welfare organization in Amman which contributed the funds for the convention. The publication added that today's social activity in the territories was carried out in extraordinary conditions (of occupation, obviously) and one should face dangers. The convention also discussed the treatment of blind people and assistance to invalids. However, the aspiration for unity and cooperation between the various institutions in the West Bank, Jerusalem and Gaza stood above everything and decisions were also adopted on this issue. The opening ceremony (held at the YMCA hall near the ex-Mandelbaum gate) was ostentatiously attended by the mayors of bethlehem, Nabulus, and Hebron who were warned by the military government not to make any speeches. Indeed, none of them spoke. At their side sat Anwar Nusaybah, Hikmat al-Masri, Dr Haydar 'Abd al-Shafi, (a resident of Gaza, Ash-Shawwa's rival) and many others.

The state of Israel finds it difficult to ban the holding of such a convention in spite of its clear political nature. In the past, the military government sent orders to personalities in the territories banning them from attending this or other meetings. Special care was also taken on the content of the speeches, the ceremonies and the artistic program.

However, with the political conditions prevailing in the territories in the last few years, someone wishing to prevent political organizations must in fact paralyze all educational, cultural and social activities of the Arab inhabitants. The standards prevailing today among the Arab public in the territories practically imposes dwelling on the Palestinian nationalist problem and its struggle against Israel. A few years ago (I think it was in 1970), I heard about a dance which was organized at the Bi'r Zayt college and, at the beginning, a group of students started to throw tomatoes and eggs at the band and demanded that the party be stopped. According to those students, students in the West Bank could not have a dance (to celebrate Christmas) while their brothers and friends were sacrificing themselves for the sake of the PLO or were rotting in Israeli prisons. From then on, every event in the territories carries the label of nationalist struggle. If theater sessions were held, then they were called evenings of Palestinian drama. Singing events turned into a festival of Palestinian folklore. There are exhibits of Palestinian artistry, exhibits of Palestinian books and almost every month publications appear on "the Palestinian week" and other events of this sort in every corner from Janin to Hebron. Almost all fine or theoretical literature sold in the West Bank deals with the Palestinian people and its struggle. The books published here include a collection of "Children's Songs in Falastin" (by 'Ali al-Halili) or "The Attempts To Solve the Palestinian Problem" (by Mahdi 'Abd al-Hadi). Every other business in the West Bank calls itself the Palestinian workshop or the Palestinian store. Every activity, ranging from sports to painting, sculpture, singing and academic research, directly or indirectly relates to the political problems afflicting the Arab public.

The Palestinian nationalist awareness in the West Bank, Gaza and Jerusalem is fermenting and expanding day by day. One can see an entire social structure trying to gain a national identity and uniqueness for itself in order to be ready for independence and sovereignty. Nobody takes any interest in the problems of the agenda of the autonomy negotiations, because no Palestinian will accept anything less than a real state. Egypt and the United States are wondering how to buy the favors of the inhabitants of the territories. They are discussing releasing prisoners, evacuating the military government headquarters from the center of Gaza and freezing settlements with Israel. The inhabitants of the territories are laughing at these kind of gestures. As far as they are concerned, the issue at stake is not one of temptations and favors. According to them, this is a serious national struggle carried out by all means at their disposal. All tools of social activity are aimed at the target of their right to have national independence.

MILITIA COMMANDER HADDAD ON UNIFIL 'PROVOCATIONS'

TA242110 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 24 Jul 79 TA

[Text] Commander of the Christian militias in southern Lebanon Sa'd Haddad has said that UNIFIL personnel are provoking his men. The UN forces' commanders today claimed that the militias had taken over a position near the village of (Bayt Yarun) which is under their control.

Our correspondent in the north Yemezq'el HaMe'iri points out that the position had been abandoned since the IDF left southern Lebanon after the Al-Litani operation.

Major Haddad returned to the enclave today after undergoing treatment in the Rambam hospital in Haifa. He emphasized that this position had never been under UN control.

NATIONAL FRONT PRESENTS VIEWS ON GOVERNMENT

ID251436 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 25 Jul 79 ID

[Text] Yesterday afternoon the National Front announced its views and position regarding the Revolutionary Council, the government, the constitution and the constituent assembly. According to a report by a PARS correspondent, in a meeting yesterday in National Front headquarters attended by members of the Executive Council and the National Front and a number of reporters, the National Front spokesman discussed the views and position of this party on the present condition of the country and ways to solve the difficulties.

While referring to services rendered to the country by Dr Mossadeq and the 21 July uprising and the struggles of the valiant Iranian nation, he said: We know full well that the great national and Islamic revolution of Iran, which achieved success because of the decisive leadership of the leader of the revolution, has new and special features compared to many other revolutions in history throughout the world.

Referring to the draft of the constitution and improvements suggested by the National Front, the National Front spokesman described the views and suggestions of the National Front on the situation in the country. Some of these suggestions, which have been divided into eight sections, are:

Unity of expression should be kept and maintained until establishment of a (?legal government), approval of the constitution, holding of elections for the National Consultative Assembly, election of a president and formation of a government. This unity should be under the guidance, of His Great Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni, revered leader of the revolution, and with the collaboration and cooperation of the sources of imitation [the leading ulema]. All political and social parties, organizations and groups should express their political and social views and expand their political activities by maintaining this unity in the framework of national understanding.

The leadership of the revolution should adopt similar treatment toward all strata and groups of people in their general affairs, their social rights and their participation in political affairs. The revered leadership of the revolution should have direct contact with all political groups, parties and organizations and should personally listen to their views. In cases when their views are useful and logical, he should issue orders for their views to be adopted.

The Revolutionary Council should be dismissed. Until the election of the National Consultative Assembly, its powers should be transferred to the government. The committees of the Revolutionary Guards corps and other power centers, if believed to be necessary, should form part of the government organization so that, apart from the government which has been appointed by the leadership of the revolution, no other independent executive power center would exist in the country.

The government should undergo a fundamental reshuffle, so that first, it has power to make decisions and implement them and the capability for sufficient mobility and activity within the government and executive organs throughout the country, and second, to be the representative of various forces and classes within society as far as possible.

The spokesman of the National Front demanded that the government lift censorship of radio and television, saying that this organization should act in an unbiased way toward various political and social parties and groups. The press bill should be drawn up in such a way that it does not restrict freedom for the expression of views and thoughts.

W. AZARBAYJAN GOVERNOR INTERVIEWED ON URUMIYEH AGREEMENT

LD251746 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 25 Jul 79 LD

[Text] According to a PARS report, following the announcement of the 64th Division of Urumiyeh that complete calm had returned to Urumiyeh region and misunderstandings with the Kurdish brothers dispelled, Mr Haqgu, governor general of West Azarbayjan, said on the subject of the programs of reconstruction in the region and ending the misunderstandings in Urumiyeh region: Unfortunately, yesterday afternoon some elements attacked the gendarmerie post in Khoy and created tension in Khoy region. He said: Our first objective throughout the province is to establish calm and we hope that this, in accordance with the wish of the people, will be achieved as soon as possible and that the farmers who have been expelled from their homes and farms can return as soon as possible.

He said: Today, a delegation of elders will be dispatched to the city of Naqadeh to investigate the problems there and to create an atmosphere favorable for reconstruction so that reconstruction of the area can begin in accordance with projects that have been drawn up and the losses of the people of Naqadeh recompensed.

Mr Haqgu, in an interview with the correspondent of radio and television center in Urumiyeh, elaborated on the main points of the agreement between the various parties to the conflict in the West Azarbayjan region. We draw your attention to a report from our colleague in the radio and television center in Urumiyeh:

Following the agreement between representatives of the government and the national army of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the tribal leaders in the tense areas of West Azarbayjan, which has solved differences and corrected misunderstandings and which was announced at 2350 yesterday by Urumiyeh radio, this morning we interviewed Mr Jamshid Haqgu, governor general of West Azarbayjan, on the agreement and other problems concerning the security of the region. Here is the interview: [begin recording]

[Question] I have with me Mr Jamshid Haqgu, governor general of West Azarbayjan, and I am going to ask him to tell us about the agreement between the parties to the conflict in the region of Sero and (Tang-e Varumand).

[Answer] As you know, the government has entrusted the security of this region to the 64th Army Division, which shows the importance the prime minister and the commander of the army attach to the security of this region. Following the clashes which have taken place and the insecurity which has arisen in the region over the past few days, some of the leaders and representatives of the tribes had a meeting. I was not present at this meeting and my representative was not present either. The main lines of the agreement are that these gentlemen said: (?We do not have any quarrel with you); we would like to see the army in our region. Significantly, they agreed to the presence of the army, they supported the Islamic republic and they indicated that they have no connection with the groups who are, presumably, against the government. These were some of the main points which were included in this agreement.

[Question] Mr governor general, did they set out any conditions in this agreement about the return of stability to the region?

[Answer] As far as I know, no. This is just an agreement so that under present conditions a truce is reached with the tribal leaders.

[Question] Yesterday, we received news of the disarming of the gendarmerie posts in Qotur. Could you tell us something about these events?

[Answer] Yes. Yesterday--no, the day before yesterday--unfortunately, 6 of the 10 posts in the region were disarmed, and the company in Qotur was also disarmed. As was said in yeaterday's radio news bulletins, these events are a cause of great sorrow.

[Question] Will the agreement also cover these problems?

[Answer] No, there is no connection between them. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

Armored Division Arrives in Urumiyeh

LD251230 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 25 Jul 79 LD

[Text] The central news bureau has reported that yesterday afternoon units of the Qazvin armored division arrived in Urumiyeh to augment units of the Urumiyeh division and were welconed by the people with flowers. At several stages in the city along the route of the dispatched units the people sacrificed a lamb and welcomed them, chanting: God is great. According to the same report, along the route the people welconed the army with slogans such as: Let the nation be sacrificed for the army! The army personnel reciprocated with slogans such as: Let the army be sacrificed for the nation!

Urumiyeh Army Dispute Resolved

LD251333 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 25 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Following an agreement between the warring parties in the recent clashes in West Azarbayjan, the Urumiyeh 64th Division has issued a statement. The statement says: At a historic session in the presence of the special envoy of the prime minister's office, the commander of the ground forces, notables and leaders of Kurdish tribes, all the problems were reviewed and misunderstandings eliminated. Those participating at this meeting, declaring their absolute loyalty to the distinguished leader of the revolution, Imam Khomeyni, the Iranian Islamic Republic and the security forces, unanimously expressed aversion to divisive plots by colonialists. According to the statement by the Urumiyeh 64th Division, with establishment of complete security throughout the region, tanks and troop carriers have returned to their barracks in Urumiyeh.

Officials on Kurdish Harassment

LD260751 Tehran AYANDEGAN in Persian 22 Jul 79 p 1 LD

[PARS NEWS AGENCY report]

[Text] Following difficulties which have beset Kurds living in Urumiyeh caused by groups of irresponsible individuals, the governor general of West Azarbayjan yesterday threatened to leave the city if the provocations continue.

PARS reports the text of his statement as follows:

Esteemed citizens of West Azarbayjan: The clashes in Sero region in no way represent a problem between Turks and Kurds. This strife has been created by agents of reaction and opportunist associates of the fuedalists aiming to preserve their unlawful interests and imposing this on the people. It has been reported that a number of uninformed factions have molested our Kurdish brothers residing in Urumiyeh.

It must be known that all upright and Muslim Kurds are our brothers, and I condemn any sort of aggression and insult against them. Those who commit any aggression against our innocent Kurdish brothers will be relentlessly pursued and punished. For these provocations, whether deliberate or not, deal the severest blows to the body of Islam and the Islamic revolution. I warn that if they continue, I shall leave the city.

Concluding his statement, the governor general of West Azarbayjan asks the people of the province, particularly the people of Urumiyeh, to behave well towards the Kurdish brothers and thus to prove their revolutionary morale and humanity to the Iranian nation.

Announcement by the prosecutor on the basis of this report the prosecutor of the Islamic republic in Urumiyeh also published a statement reading as follows:

Esteemed citizens of Urumiyeh:

The attack on the gendarmerie post by feudalists and counterrevolutionaries has no connection with our Kurdish Muslim brothers. Some people have spread a rumor that our Kurdish brothers have been subjected to insults in the city while stating that our respected fellow-townsmen are clearly aware that under Islam there is no difference between Turks, Kurds or Persians and so forth, but that piety is the yardstick by which one is judged. You are reminded that if irresponsible individuals molest our Kurdish brothers in the town, they will be considered counterrevolutionaries; the prosecutor of the revolution will proceed against them and they will be subject to the most severe punishment. It should also be noted that any decision regarding counterrevolutionaries lies with the responsible authorities.

Ardebili Urumiyeh Garrison Address

LD251855 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Jul 79 LD

[Excerpts] Ayatollah Musavi Ardebili, who arrived in Urumiyeh today at the behest of Iman Khomeyni to investigate the state of affairs and the difficulties of Azarbayjan, attended and addressed a rally of troops, NCO's and officers of the 64th Division. He said: Just as you soldiers aimed your guns at the breasts of the rebellious commanders--who were the agents of imperialism--during the revolution and gave new life to Iran's Islamic revolution, today you will also aim your bullets at the hearts of the plotters and counterrevolutionary xenophiles.

He added: Our revolution is a genuine revolution which has been brought to fruition thanks to the efforts of all strata in society, and its like is rare throughout history.

Continuing his speech Ayatollah Musavi said: The Islamic army of today is fundamentally different from the satanical army. The previous army was divorced from the people and stood against the people. But the Islamic army is always with the people and among them.

The Iranian soldier now does not merely receive military training; rather, he receives religious, philosophical, humanitarian and moral instruction. Armed with freedom and an Islamic outlook, he enjoys full military and ideological preparedness.

Ayatollah Ardebili went on: Under Islam we do not have a border of land or soil; the Muslims' only existing border is the ideological border; they do not recognize a border between Asians, Africans and Europeans. Just as we do not have extraterritorial or intraterritorial considerations under Islam, we do not recognize these considerations in matters concerned with plots. For us a plotter is a plotter, whether he be a Kurd, an Arab or a Persian. And it is for this reason that when someone threatens our ideology and ideas we struggle against him; and wherever counterrevolutionaries exist we will expose them.

Today we are not afraid of fighting the enemy since we are fighting along the path of Islam and to safeguard the achievements of the revolution, not for Satan or at the orders of the rebellious.

Today, we hope not only to bring Iran's revolution to fruition but rather we strive to bring to fruition the revolutions of other such liberation-seeking peoples as the peoples of Palestine, Eritrea and others; and you should know that the army of the Islamic republic is the army of all the oppressed and downtrodden peoples.

Concluding his speech, Ayatollah Musavi Ardebili said: Every day imperialism mobilizes its forces in a different corner of our country in order to harm our revolution; by appreciating the depth of anticolonialist, antidespotic and anti-imperialist feelings, the Islamic revolution of Iran has reached the conclusion that as long as the leader of the revolution is alive not only can imperialism not destroy the revolution but is also cannot even entertain the thought of weakening it.

ARMY SENDS TANKS, TROOPS TO MARIVAN, SANANDAJ

NC251955 Paris AFP in English 1942 GMT 25 Jul 79 NC

[Text] Tehran, July 25 (AFP)--Iranian Army helicopters today landed several tanks in the garrison town of Marivan, and units of the "guardians of the Revolution" in Sanandaj, two towns in Iranian Kordestan, Kurdish sources said here. The situation remained tense in Marivan after a government delegation sent to negotiate with local autonomists was turned back on the outskirts of the town. Meanwhile the sources said that Kurdish autonomist movements were planning a march on Marivan if 13 Kurdish militants reportedly held hostage by government forces stationed outside that town were not freed within 24 hours.

FINANCE MINISTER DENIES REPORT ON MEETING WITH U.S. ENVOY

LD251949 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Jul 79 LD

[Text] 'Ali Ardalan, minister of economic affairs and finance, today denied a report carried by the press on his meeting with the U.S. Embassy charge d'affaires in Iran. Ardalan said: During this meeting, which took place 2 days ago, the U.S. Government representative announced that the U.S. Government has expressed willingness to continue economic and trade relations with Iran.

During the meeting, the minister of economic affairs and finance said that the manner of this cooperation should be based on national independence and equal rights in exchanges, and he said that talks took place on this basis.

KHOMEYNI RECEIVES FOREIGN MINISTER, ENVOY TO SYRIA

LD241915 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Jul 79 LD

[Text] According to a PARS dispatch Dr Ebrahim Yazdi, foreign minister of the Provisional Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, together with Dr Hasan Ruhani, Iranian ambassador in Syria, were received by the imam in Qom this morning, and they talked for an hour.

AMBASSADOR TO IRAQ ARRIVES IN TEHRAN

LD251950 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Mr Seyyed Mahmud Do'a'i, the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Baghdad, arrived in Tehran last night to meet Khomeyni, the leader of the Islamic revolution. During his stay in Tehran Mr Do'a'i will meet Eng Mehdi Bazargan, the prime minister, and Dr Ebrahim Yazdi, minister of foreign affairs of the Provisional Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and deliver a report on the territory covered by his mission.

DEFENSE MINISTER VIEWS ARMY ROLE, UNREST, POLITICS

LD251223 Tehran AYANDEGAN in Persian 23 Jul 79 p 1 LD

[Unattributed report: "The Army Must Intervene To Insure Security in Areas of Unrest"]

[Text] Brig Gen Taqi Riahi, minister of national defense, in a short interview with AYANDEGAN last night denied that a multiplicity of authority exists in the army and said that as defense minister he was completely independent. At another point in the discussion the defense minister said he believed the army should intervene to insure security in areas which have experienced unrest and should vigorously oppose those who engage in armed uprisings. Regarding the views of Maj Gen Naser Farbod, former army chief of staff who gave as the reason for his resignation the multiplicity of authority in the army, AYANDEGAN sought the defense minister's views.

In reply Defense Minister Brigadier General Riahi said:

"He is responsible for his own statements, but I detect no such power centers in the army. I am completely independent and exercise absolute control over my work."

The question was asked: "What are your views on the use of the army in disturbed areas of the country?"

The defense minister said: "Wherever armed persons carry out an uprising and seek to create unrest, the army must intervene. It is only natural that people who set fire to crops and commit reprehensible acts must be opposed, since they are counterrevolutionaries." He considered this the reason for the army's intervention in Azarbayjan.

The defense minister yesterday strongly denied rumors ofthe resignation of Brigadier General Imanian, commander of the air force, and said that the new military police chief had not yet been chosen. The deputy head of the military police had undertaken the responsibilities of commander, (which scotches reports of the appointment of Colonel Khaza'i as military police chief).

On the subject of the military technicians' problems and their strike, which is still in progress, Brigadier General Riahi said: The Defense Ministry is engaged in investigating their demands, but there is a minority among them whose expectations are excessive; of course, the expectations of some of them are justifiable, and I advise them to wait. Their logical, proper expectations will be considered. If what they say is reasonable, we shall look into their demands.

AIR FORCE TECHNICIANS THREATEN FURTHER STRIKE ACTION

LD251007 Tehran AYANDEGAN in Persian 18 Jul 79 p 1 LD

[Excerpt] Air force military technicians last night warned that if the military and the government continue to show "indifference" in fulfilling the technicians' demands, they will be responsible for the serious consequences. The technicians in the land forces, who were entering the third day of their sit-in strike, announced that if the responsible authorities fail to look into their demands they will call out on strike the army technicians in the air force [homaniruz]. The press liaison representative of the army and air force technicians told AYANDEGAN last night:

"High-ranking officers on the General Staff are engaged in making decisions concerning the state of the army, including the question of the technicians, and we are doing nothing to interfere with this."

Protesting at this method of making decisions, a statement by the representative of the army and air force technicians was made available to AYANDEGAN which reads as follows: "Apparently, the authorities do not wish to give us an answer or show any logical reaction. This will make us intensify our strike, which at the moment is only conditional. We hereby warn them that they will have to answer for the serious consequences of the present indifference."

The technicians' press representative noted:

"We have endeavored so far to insure that our stike does not adversely affect air force duties, but apparently certain responsible authorities in the air force have taken unfair advantage of this, and when referring to our strike demands have misled a number of responsible authorities."

Technicians Express Support for Khomeyni

LD252352 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 25 Jul 79 LD

[Text] The following statement issued by the air force technicians' press relations officer was placed at the disposal of the central news bureau today:

We, 18,000 men of the air force technicians of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, are ready to strive with our hearts and souls, in any manner commanded by the leader of the revolution, His Great Eminence the Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni, to crush counterrevolution.

In any part of the country and in every possible way, we are ready for self-denial and self-sacrifice to the last drop of our blood. We hereby proclaim our cohesiveness with and our decisive backing for the Islamic revolution of the Iranian nation.

May the voice of the discord-sowers and rumormongers stifle in their throats forever.

RUMORS OF RESTRICTIONS ON WOMEN DURING RAMADAN DENIED

LD251348 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 25 Jul 79 LD

[Text] The government spokesman, in an exclusive interview with Tehran Radio of the Islamic Republic of Iran, has denied all rumors concerning women's clothing or the expulsion of women from government departments. Our reporter, Mojtaba Jabal-Ameli's interview with Mr Sadeq Tabataba'i, the government spokesman, on this matter is as follows: [begin recording]

[Question] Mr Tabataba'i, some five pickup trucks are going through the city and are threatening women that during the holy month of Ramadan the government has imposed restrictions on them. How much do you know of this matter, and what is the government's policy on such incitements?

[Answer] As we have frequently said, the enemy is trying to weaken our society by creating agitation and spreading rumors. It is by delivering such blows to a weakened society that the enemy and counterrevolutionaries can once again succeed in their inhuman ambitions. The factor which can lead to weakening society is the use of prejudice, sectarianism, general ignorance, selfishness, opportunism and such ills which, unfortunately, have still not been eradicated from our society. Concerning this rumor, it is not the first time--and it will not be the last either--that they spread such rumors. As I said last week, some elements are busy making use of the most modern scientific, psychological and sociological techniques and spend money and make use of all their capabilities, so that at the opportune moment they can commit such inhuman acts in our society and create distruct among the people, make the people distrustful of the government and the government distrustful of the people, make everyone distrustful of the leadership and make the leadership distrustful of the people. In brief, they want to create chaos and confusion in the country so that they can destroy the solidarity of the people, the best example of which you saw 2 weeks ago when millions of people throughout the country showed their solidarity with the leadership. It is very natural that we should expect the reaction of the enemy which aims to create division in our society and make our country disintegrate.

You mentioned some pickup trucks circulating in the city with loudspeakers. I also heard about that this morning. I must say that the announcements are untrue. The government has issued no such circular.

Today I also contacted the minister of the interior, Mr Sabbaghian. He said that he has given orders to the security forces that while they make sure that public places and restaurants are completely closed--with the exception, of course, of guesthouses and international hotels because it is forbidden for travelers to fast, and so they can eat, can have breakfasts and lunches in the guesthouses and international hotels. However, in order to show respect to the month of Ramadan, restaurants and public places will be closed as usual.

While the security forces are dutybound to pay attention to these matters, at the same time they have been ordered to prevent any kind of disturbance by identified or unidentified persons to women or men or [words indistinct] or women's clothing. Of course, this is not contrary to the maintenance of public morality and the observance of the social codes of the country.

[Question] Following these incitements, there is another rumor circulating that during the holy month of Ramadan, if ladies appear unveiled in the streets they are responsible for their own safety and their lives may be endangered. What do you say about this rumor?

[Answer] If you remember, at the beginning of March, the same rumor was spread among the people to the effect that women should be dressed in such and such a way and that they would not otherwise be allowed inside government departments. A mercenary reporter from a foreign paper wrote in his magazine that women who entered streets unveiled had their breasts scratched and their hair was cut on the orders of Imam Khomeyni, that they were beaten, and that security forces were placed in front of the departments. This rumor is an exact repetition of the previous rumor and, by this, they wish to incite the public and create confusion. There has been no circular concerning this matter and it is not true. We hope that the people will themselves be sufficiently vigilant and wakeful so that they can neutralize such rumors so that no opportunity is provided for public agitation.

[Question] And so you deny the rumor that all women employees are to be expelled from government departments?

[Answer] Well, this is a new rumor and has nothing to do with the question of the veil. Yes, we deny this rumor, too. There has been no such ciruclar either by the government to the ministries or by any minister to the employees of that ministry or its affiliated departments. These are pure lies and rumors. As we have said, those elements, who number about 2,000, spend at least $6 million each week to hatch conspiracies and spread rumors so that they can create insecurity, disorder and distrust. Such rumors are not true. If we wish to issue a circular or a guideline, the government has a spokesman and its own propaganda machinery; the ministries have public relations departments and they can announce what they have to say to the public. There is no need for them to do it through such channels or by spreading rumors.

I wish to assure those who are engaged in spreading rumors and are doing these things that they will not come to power through such means. They, too, will be destroyed and even if, God forbid, they should succeed, once again those people will come to power who will leave nothing alone in this country and will show no mercy to anyone, old or young, man or woman, and they will destroy everything.

These are international conspiracies. These are conspiracies of international Zionism which because of the triumph of the Islamic revolution has been threatened more than any other and feels that its very existence has been endangered.

And so it makes use of all these methods in order to sow insecurity and distrust among the people. As the imam, the government and the religious and political leaders have repeatedly said: In this country freedom exists for all the people. However, if any one tries to misuse this freedom and create conspiracies, like these rumors they are spreading, it is the duty of the security forces and of the government, the people and all the political organizations and groups to fight with utmost severity against this group and these conspiracies. The freedom which has been achieved at the cost of thousands of martyrs and their precious blood should not be so easily misused by opportunists and mercenaries.

[Question] You said that no circular has been issued by the government concerning expulsion of women employees from government departments. Can the departments themselves take some direct steps in this respect or not? Because in the Ministry of Post, Telegraph and Telephone [PTT] it has been rumored that a list has been prepared of all secretaries in order to dismiss them. What are your views on this?

[Answer] I deny this, too. The Ministry of PTT has issued no such circular. All that those who spread such rumors and express their worries about the people have to do is make a telephone call to the public relations department of the Ministry of PTT and ask them if this rumor is true. This costs nothing. Whoever says he is worried, instead of spreading such rumors, should make a telephone call to the public relations department of the Ministry of PTT and ask: Sir or Madam, has there been such a circular in your ministry or not? The problem can be solved easily. As the government spokesman, I deny this rumor. [end recording]

FORMER HEALTH MINISTER SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT

LD251514 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 25 Jul 79 LD

[Text] On orders of the Tehran Islamic Revolutionary Court Sheykholeslamzadeh, health and welfare minister of the hated Pahlavi regime, has been sentenced to life imprisonment.

In the name of God who exacts punishment on tyrants. The first bench of the capital's Islamic Revolutionary Court after nine sessions of hearings and 4 days of deliberation has issued its verdict in the case of Dr Seyyed Shoja'eddin Sheykholeslamzadeh. The verdict incorporates three convictions for the defendant. Here is the text of the court's verdict:

A summary of the accusations against the defendant, Dr Seyyed Shoja'eddin Sheykholeslamzadeh, son of Seyyed Hoseyn, 48, specialist orthopedic surgeon, is as follows in accordance with the bill of indictment: misappropriation and plunder of public funds on his own behalf and on behalf of others; active and sincere cooperation aimed at strengthening the foundations of the previous hated regime, as well as participation in the illegal and inhuman Hoveyda and Amuzegar cabinets; subversion and corruption in the country's health and medical system; allocating health and medical funds for corrupt and self-indulgent activities; payment of vast bribes to internal and international associates of the previous regime and consequently subverting the country's economic system. The said defendant, when the collection of evidence and documents contained in the file and testimony of witnesses introduced to the Tehran Islamic revolution judiciary are taken into account and the aforementioned crimes, as detailed in the bill of indictment, are proved, substantiating the accusations in 18 pages, is recognized as having sowed corruption on earth.

However, bearing in mind certain mitigating factors, including lack of sufficient proof of the defendant's illicit relationship with a woman from the standpoint of the religious conduct code, as well as the manner in which he conducted his defense before the court and, furthermore, the possibility of using his expertise in the interest of the nation and patients, and also bearing in mind other circumstantial and implied evidence contained in the dossier, the defendant is sentenced to life imprisonment.

At the same time, it is ordered that all assets of the said person and those of his immediate relatives, assets which he unjustly looted from public funds, be confiscated in favor of the poor. Maintenance for the livelihood of the convict's dependents at the level enjoyed by the poor is excluded from this order. In addition, the convict is obliged, in accordance with a program to be prepared by the Health and Welfare Ministry of the Iranian Islamic Republic, to treat patients free of charge throughout his life sentence. The verdict is final (without appeal).

KHOMEYNI URGES UNITY IN SELECTING DRAFT CONSTITUTION REVIEWERS

LD251200 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 25 Jul 79 LD

[Text] On the eve of the holy month of Ramadan, Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the Iranian Islamic Revolution, today issued an important message addressed to the Iranian nation. The full text of Imam Khomeyni's message is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. With the approach of the holy month of Ramadan, the month of prayers and construction, the month of moral rebirth, the great month of Allah, when all Muslims, united in one rank, focus on the inexhaustible might of God Almighty and on mobilizing against satanical forces, it is essential with monotheistic unity and united might to rise against the satans of the era and international plunderers and defend the Islamic realm, cut off the hands of traitors and dash their hopes.

At present all the Muslims and the oppressed, particularly dear Iran and occupied Lebanon and Palestine, face critical stages ahead of them: Iran faces seditionists associated with the shah's regime and revisionists and international Zionism, and Lebanon and Palestine face Israel, the enemy of Islam, the Muslims and a meddlesome troublemaker. Our Muslim brothers in Palestine and Lebanon are beset with inhumane Israeli aggressions, and should, God forbid, Israel be victorious in this arena, it will extend the scope of its aggressions to other countries as well. It is appropriate during the holy month of Ramadan to offer collective prayers for our Lebanese and Palestinian brothers, and it is essential on the eve of the holy month of Ramadan to point out certain matters.

At this crucial juncture when we need Islamic gatherings more than at any other time, it is essential that our Muslim people throughout the country head for mosques in order to keep the movement alive through the mosques, which are the strong bastions of Islam, and to further the movement by Islamic slogans. Esteemed preachers and men of the pulpit should call the people to unity of expression, continuation of the movement, piety and revolutionary patience, and warn them against dispute and division, which are the basis of failure and backwardness. By recalling the jihad of the lord of the oppressed and the tragedies inflicted upon his holy person [reference to the third imam of the Shi'ites], they should call upon the nation to strive until final victory and the achievement of an Islamic rule with all its dimensions.

Recalling the sacrifices and endeavors of the mujahidin of the dawn of Islam will keep Islam alive not only today but for eternity.

It is essential that the learned ulema throughout the country, from the center to the remotest provinces and provincial cities, should work together to achieve the Islamic goal and all share collectively the candidates for the election of the assembly of experts. They should not have separate candidates for themselves or for different regions, for in such a division there will be a risk of failure and the danger of driving back Islam and its progressive commands.

As you may observe today, certain groups which were not united in the past have now joined hands in this regard and nominated joint candidates. I fear that you might split up with regard to what is your right and that, God forbid, certain weaknesses might appear in the revolution. It is essential in this connection that other objectives are set aside in the interest of Islam and that all ulema and strata interested in Islam, particularly enthusiastic Islamic youth, join hands in deciding the experts. Should this be so, God Almighty will be with you. I hope to be able in the coming days to hear and see through the media the joint candidates of all the ulema and regions and of those interested in Islam.

I pray to Almighty God for strength for Islam and its followers. With reliance upon the support of the great Muslim nation and from a position of strength, I warn the ill-wishers of the Islamic movement and leftist and rightist plotters to abandon mischief and plotting, to join the nation in the interests of the country, to avoid divisiveness and serving foreigners, and not to think that by your ignorant behavior you can divert the nation from its course. I issue the same emphatic warning to the press and mass media that freedom is something different from conspiracy. Plots against the supreme interests of Islam and of the country and the nation will be vigorously prevented. If I should sense a serious danger, I will bring up the problems with my dear nation so that the brave nation may make the necessary decision itself, as it has so far made decisive decisions on various matters.

I have personally often pointed out to the Arab brothers and the great Arab nation, which are Islamic vanguards, the grave danger from foreigners, particularly from Zionism. It is essential in the month of Ramadan, the month of Islamic gatherings, for the faithful to unmask the plots of this world-devouring monster at congregations and expose the dangers stemming from this enemy of humanity. It is essential that great thinkers of the Islamic world be called upon to describe the various dimensions of the great Islamic revolution of Iran, to appraise the blows this revolution has dealt the body of international hegemonists, and so neutralize the adverse propaganda of the enemies of our revolution.

I pray to Almighty God for the greatness of Islam and the Islamic countries. May peace and God's mercy and blessing be upon you.

[Signed] Ruhollah Mosavi Khomeyni, 25 July 1979.

AFGHANISTAN

MINISTRY SEEKS REDUCTION IN U.S. EMBASSY STAFF

JN241810 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1715 GMT 24 Jul 79 JN

[Text] Yesterday the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan informed the U.S. Embassy in Kabul that it should return that number of the officials in the mission and its related departments, who were appointed after the (?victory) of the Sawr Revolution, to their own country. The Foreign Ministry also asked the U.S. Embassy to reduce its members and employees in proportion with the reduction of U.S. aid to Afghanistan.

As has been noted, the number of members and employees of certain foreign missions and their departments in Afghanistan increased after the victory of the Great Sawr Revolution. This increase in the number of foreign missions was not proportionate to the number of members in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan's missions in these countries. Further, this increase did not take into consideration the workloads of the foreign missions' members, particularly since certain countries' aid to Afghanistan was either completely stopped or considerably reduced after the Great Sawr Revolution. Thus, there is no need for the increase in the number of the aforementioned missions' members in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Consequently the Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan informed the U.S. Embassy in Kabul that it should quickly return its officials who were appointed to its mission and its departments to their own country [words indistinct] so that a proportionate balance can be achieved between the two countries' members, according to the principle of political and legal equality of countries and that of proportionate exchange.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs emphasized that a reasonable and suitable reduction in the remainder of the U.S. political mission's members and in those in other related departments be made proportionate with the reduction of U.S. aid to Afghanistan and with the workloads of their members, so that a proportionate balance can be achieved in the number of members of the two countries' respective missions.

ORGANIZATION IN MASHHAD REPORTS CLASH NEAR HERAT

ID251728 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Jul 79 ID

[Text] Afghanistan's (?liberation) organization in Mashhad in a statement announced that according to a report from a village 5 km from the city of Herat in Afghanistan, while Muslim mujahidin were deployed at their barricades, government forces equipped with 70 tanks surrounded the mujahidin. As a result of the clash between the two sides a number of government troops were killed and 30 soldiers and two army officers joined the ranks of Afghanistan's mujahidin. According to this report, in the course of this clash two mujahidin were killed and another was wounded.

'THOUSANDS' REGISTER FOR DEFENSE OF COUNTRY

ID240225 Kabul in English to Europe 1900 GMT 23 Jul 79 ID

[Text] Thousands of our noble people in the capital and provinces of the country today registered their names for the defense of the honor of the country and the gains of the Great Sawr Revolution and expressed their readiness for every kind of sacrifice and selflessness for the defense of the invincible Sawr Revolution, [words indistinct] and the national honor.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports from (?Ghazni) that thousands of our noble and patriotic people of (?Ghazni), including clergymen, ulemas, intelligentsia, went to the office of the provincial governor and during their meeting with the governor expressed their readiness for the defense of the country and registered their names for this purpose. Similarly, some 3,000 workers and officials of Kabul municipality, with their patriotic feelings and support for their Khalqi government have volunteered to defend their sacred land and the invincible Sawr Revolution. While registering their names they gave the slogan to defend their country up to the last drop of their blood and eliminate the enemies of the people and the country.

Hundreds of workers and staff members of the education (?printing press) today registered their names (?for) the defense of the honor of their country.

MINISTER OF FINANCE MISAQ INTERVIEWED BY BULGARIAN PAPER

AU251126 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 18 Jul 79 p 7 AU

[Natasha Manolova, RABOTNICHESKO DELO reporter, interviews Abdolkarim Misaq, Afghan minister of finance--date not given]

[Text] The interview was conducted in the minister's office which is situated near the noise and color of "Pushtunistan" square. The topics of the interview are varied--from the country's economy to problems of literature. The reason for this is because Abdolkarim Misaq, Politburo member of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee, Revolutionary Council member and minister of finance, is also one of Aghanistan's most famous writers. His stories, imbued with sharp social pathos, have been translated into several languages. And if this interview also deals with economic problems it is because the April 1978 revolution placed the party figure and writer Misaq in the responsible post of minister of finance, which is the focus of his efforts today.

Question: What were the first steps of the PDPA and the revolutionary government in the area of the economy? What is the direction of the efforts of the ministry headed by you? What are its present problems and tasks?

Answer: After forming the Government of the PDPA and in accordance with the basic revolutionary tasks, the PDPA announced its plan to eliminate the lagging economy, accelerate the rate of economic growth, develop and modernize the economy, industrialize the country, and increase the people's standard of living. Immediate measures for implementing the democratic agrarian reform were taken. This reform is being implemented with the participation of the working people.

Additional measures were taken for liquidating feudal relations through the reorganization of internal and foreign trade in the people's favor. Effective measures for securing the country's national tranquility were taken. The state's share in the economy is being strengthened through scientific planning, and the government has taken effective control over the country's natural resources and the preparation of national cadres. Measures have also been taken to protect national industrial production from foreign competition and to stimulate, protect, and guide private capital investments in industry and in small and medium-size enterprises. The government has expanded techno-economic cooperation with friendly countries with a view to attracting their credits, without conditions, so that our country may achieve accelerated economic development. The government has reviewed the budget, income and expenditures with a view to ensuring that they are beneficial to production, education, health protection and construction.

These revolutionary measures are already being applied. Some of them have already been partially implemented and others enter their final stage with an accelerated rate. Part of the reforms require a longer period for achieving the qualitative goal.

You realize that the solution of the aforementioned great tasks in an underdeveloped country such as Afghanistan, is accompanied by problems and difficulties. However, our responsibility to the Afghan people, until recently oppressed, requires us to overcome these difficulties.

Question: How do you evaluate the economic assistance of the USSR and the other socialist countries? What is your opinion on the development of the relations between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan?

Answer: The broad economic cooperation with the USSR in creating the appropriate economic basis of our society and implementing qualitative transformations in our country has had and is having a positive and effective role. The basic part of the national production in the area of industry and agriculture and the effective use of the natural resources are based on this cooperation, which is developing and constantly increasing its influence on accelerating the rates of the country's economic development. I am confident that on the basis of our two countries' friendship this cooperation will further develop for the benefit of the two peoples, and that new horizons will be revealed.

Along with the other socialist countries Bulgaria will also broadly cooperate in various sectors of our economy for the implementation of the first 5-year plan for the development of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. This cooperation will benefit the two countries. The building projects being constructed with the assistance of fraternal Bulgaria are being praised by our government and people as projects aimed at the well-being of the Afghan working people, and corresponding with our national interests. More than 120 projects will be constructed in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan with the assistance of the socialist countries. These projects will be constructed during the years of the 5-year plan, and they are very diverse from the viewpoint of their economic value and development.

REFUGEE LEADERS DENY SUBVERSION PLANS

BK201107 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 20 Jul 79 BK

[Text] Afghan refugees who have been given asylum in Pakistan purely on humanitarian grounds have expressed satisfaction over the arrangements made for them by the Pakistan Government within its limited resources.

A party of journalists that visited the Afghan refugee camps at Pishin in Golistan was told by their tribal notables that they were strictly adhering to the Pakistan Government's instructions that they should not use Pakistani soil for any political activity or subversion against Afghanistan.

Mr (Dost Mohammad Baraish) who has been a member of the Afghan Loi Jirga [parliament] for 12 years, told newsmen at Pishin that soon after their migration the Afghan refugees had to deposit with the Pakistan authorities whatever little arms they brought with them for self defense. The refugees have been lodged at places far away from the Afghan border to prevent them for indulging in any acts against Afghanistan. Refuting Afghan allegations Mr (Dost Mohammad Baraish) said whatever was happening in Afghanistan was the work of Afghans living within Afghanistan who were in opposition to the present Kabul government.

Mr (Itehan Shada) of Ghazni said that he was one of the 100,000 hazara tribesmen who had sought asylum in Iran in order to safeguard Islamic values of life. He said during his current visit to Pakistan he had felt satisfied with the treatment meted out to Afghan refugees in this country. Mr (Yahya Ichakzai), a student of Kabul university, told newsmen that he had to cross over to Pakistan along with other youths because of their ideological differences with the present Afghan Government.

Another refugee, Mr (Abdul Hadi), a teacher from Helmand, said nothing short of a true Islamic system would be acceptable to the Afghan people. (Mullah Dad Mohammad) of (Badakshan) said the people of Afghanistan were fighting for an Islamic order. Mr Habibullah Khan, also of (Badakshan) said the refugees were strictly abiding by the Pakistan Government's instructions not to use Pakistani soil for any activity that might adversely effect relations between the two Moslem countries.

Radio Pakistan's Quetta representative, who also visited these camps, understands that the government is incurring an expenditure of 160,000 rupees every day on the maintenance of the Afghan refugees in Baluchistan alone.

BRIEFS

USSR PLANNING COOPERATION ACCORD--Kabul, 27 June, (Bakhtar)--The agreement pertaining to mutual cooperation between the Ministry of Planning Affairs of DRA and the State Committee of Planning Affairs of the USSR was signed in Moscow on 25 June. The agreement was signed for the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan by Dr Shah Wali, deputy minister and minister of public health and for the USSR by N. K. Baibakov, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Planning Affairs. [Kabul TIMES in English 27 Jun 79 p 1 BK]